



## “Weird”

Randy Watson 5/9/21

## TALK IT OVER

*Discuss these questions with someone – maybe a family member, friend, or member of your LifeGroup. Use a communication method that works best for your situation.*

### Weird in a ‘God’ Way Is Better

- If you want what *normal* people have, **do** what normal people do.
- If you want what *few* people have, **do** what few people do.

**For the Scriptures say, “You must be holy because I am holy.” | Peter 1:16**

**Hagios** (hag’-ee’os) **to be pure, to set apart, to be different.**

Psalm 69:9-12

### Constant Pressure to Conform to the Norm

- 1) The Inward Pressure: the need to [Please](#).

I Samuel 15:24-25

- 2) The Outward Pressure: [Criticism](#).

John 15:18-20

Matthew 5:10-12

**I Can’t please everyone, But I can Please God.**

1 Thes. 2:4

Prov. 29:25

✓ **When you follow Jesus, you find true Life.**

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- Who is someone that you would describe as being ‘weird in a God way’? What have you learned from them being ‘weird’?
  - Read Psalm 69:9-12. In this psalm David describes being insulted and ridiculed for being different for his faith in God. In what ways have you been insulted or made fun of because of your faith in Christ?
  - How do you typically respond when people insult you because of your faith? How can you draw strength and encouragement from these situations? ?
  - Read I Samuel 15:24-25. , John 15:18-20 and Matthew 5:10-12. These passages show us two barriers on the road to being weird: The need to please and criticism. How consumed are you with what people think about you? How has that influenced your actions?
  - How can being criticized for your faith be food for your relationship with Christ?
  - Read I Thes. 2:4 and Proverbs 29:25. These verses show us that we can’t please everyone, but we can please God. What are some of the blessings you have experienced as a result of your pleasing God?
  - What are some things you can do this week to help you focus more on pleasing God instead of others?

## Weird in a God Way is BETTER

**May's Memory Verse:** *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is -- his good, pleasing and perfect will.* Romans 12:2

### Monday 5/10- Read Exodus 20:1-7

**Question:** In God's Ten Commandments what is God's first commandment?

**Truth:** *You must not have any other god but me.* Vs. 3

**Meditate:** Deuteronomy 6:14- *Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you;*

**Prayer:** Father God, you are the one true God. I will worship you only.

**Action:** *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.* Deut. 6:5

**What God is telling me:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Tuesday 5/11- Read Matthew 22:34-40

**Question:** What did Jesus answer when asked, "What is the greatest commandment?"

**Truth:** *Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*

**Meditate:** Matthew 22:40- *All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

**Prayer:** Father, thank you for your love for me. Help me to use your love to love others.

**Action:** Learn to Love God and Love Others.

**What God is telling me:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Wednesday 5/12- Read Romans 16:1-16

**Question:** Will serving together foster friendships?

**Truth:** Paul lovingly mentions by name many of the people he served with and calls them friend.

**Meditate:** Romans 12:10- *Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.*

**Prayer:** *May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.* Romans 15:5-6

**Action:** Learn to love God and Love Others.

**What ministry at Gateway can I serve in:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Thursday 4/10- Read 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

**Question:** How can prayer help me live in righteousness?

**Truth:** *We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.* Vs. 12

**Meditate:** 2Thess. 1:11- *With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.*

**Prayer:** Lord, make me worthy of your calling. Help me to glorify God with my good deeds prompted by faith.

**Action:** *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.* Hebrews 10:24

**By faith I am going to show God's love by:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Friday 5/14- Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

**Question:** From these verses, what does Christ expect from every Christian believer?

**Truth:** *We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.* Vs. 20

**Meditate:** 2 Cor. 5:16 - *So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.*

**Prayer:** Father God, thank you for the righteousness of Christ. I will share this message with others.

**Action:** *And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.*

**Who can I invite to our church:** \_\_\_\_\_