

Crazy Love – Video #6  
Sunday September 10, 2023

1. Short opening prayer (one person or popcorn style prayer)
2. Group sharing time (time for everyone to talk about what is going on and how they are)
3. Watch week #6 video
  - a. Stop at 3:32 and talk about how we often see God as a concept and not a relationship. Why I struggled so much with academic theology in seminary. I spent so much time in college and seminary reading and studying about God that it was so easy for God to become a concept. We all run into that danger.
    - i. How do you balance studying and reading about God with keeping it a relationship?
      - Example: I want to be with my dad and I need him to help me get through things. However, I always want to know more about him. I learned more about his childhood while I was sitting with him in the hospital.
      - Luke 10:38-42 (NIV)  
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New International Version  
At the Home of Martha and Mary  
38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. 40 But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"  
  
41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but few things are needed—or indeed only one.[a] Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."
        - a. Mary found a good balance of wanting to understand Jesus more while still being with him because she adored him.
  - b. 3:48 says God wants us to be madly in love with God.
    - i. What does that mean to you?
  - c. 4:00 talks about humanizing God
    - i. Argument I had with college friend after first year of seminary. I was home in Roanoke visiting and I met her and some friends. I don't remember the context but they noticed that I didn't use the masculine pronoun for God and she asked why. I quoted Hosea 11:9 which I had read in Hebrew. Hosea 11:9  
I will not carry out my fierce anger,  
nor will I devastate Ephraim again.  
For I am God, and not a man—  
the Holy One among you.  
I will not come against their cities.
  - d. 5:14 this relationship with God he says is the most fascinating relationship that there is.
    - i. Do you agree and what is fascinating about our relationship with God?
    - ii. Talk about intimacy with God.

- What does intimacy with God look like?
    - a. Prayer
    - b. Don't be shy to say "I love you" to God
    - c. Visualizing yourself talking with Jesus
    - d. Remembering and feeling the presence of the Holy Spirit
  - iii. Talk about reverence with God.
    - What does reverence for God look like?
      - a. I just broke my rule, but typically I do not sit anything on the communion table. I am not afraid God will be mad at me, that I am doing anything wrong, etc. I just want to remember in my own mind how incredibly special and holy that table and what we do at it is.
      - b. Notice that the first of the ten commandments have to do with our relationship with God and the rest are about our relationships with one another.
      - c. Deuteronomy 5:6-15
 

6 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

7 "You shall have no other gods before[b] me.

8 "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 9 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 10 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

11 "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

12 "Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the Lord your God has commanded you. 13 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 14 but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns, so that your male and female servants may rest, as you do. 15 Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the Lord your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the Lord your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.
4. Take a few minutes to discuss whether you feel that you have a good intimacy with God.
    - a. What can you do to increase your intimacy with God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).
  5. Before you leave, decide on the one thing you are going to do to increase your intimacy with God and write it down on a piece of paper or text/email it to Pastor Matt.

## 6. Closing prayer