

is louder than the voice of God. When you hear and are sure of the voice God, you don't particularly care what your family, neighbors, friends and foes think of you. Have you ever heard the voice of God; perhaps not an audible voice, but the sure guidance of our loving God? Did you pay attention to God's voice? Were there opposing voices vying for your attention? Meditate on these questions and write your thoughts here.

### Thursday, June 10

Read Mark 3:20-35. The words and actions of Jesus were viewed as radical – we might call them crazy. A few examples were shared during the message: 1) The world abuses the weak and attempts to fix the poor. God's people embrace the lowly as the greatest among us. 2) The world rewards the strongest and the most capable. We openly confess our struggles and repent of our sins. 3) The world is full of people scrambling to stock up as much earthly treasure as they can before they die. We seek to give it away in favor of treasure in heaven.

What other radical messages from our Gospel have you heard? How does the sheer radical nature of Jesus' life and mission affect your discipleship? How does that radical nature affect your living a Christian life in our modern era?

### Friday, June 11

The message ended with the challenge, "Jesus' friends and family were wondering if he was crazy. But we should be asking ourselves if we are crazy enough." Remember, "crazy" means "out of the ordinary." What should the church be doing that is out of the ordinary? How would you like to be extraordinary by doing out of the ordinary things for Jesus' kingdom on earth? Write your thoughts here asking for God's direction.

## Message Notes – June 6, 2021

### Crazy! Right?\*

- I. My daughter was asked to speak on inclusiveness of people who are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. One of her comments was related to emotional and mental disabilities; Sarah mentioned why she is currently working on removing the word "\_\_\_\_\_" from her vocabulary as a matter of sensitivity.
  - B. The problem with the word "crazy" is that it is not \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. It is interesting that the word "crazy" is in the DSM-5; The term "\_\_\_\_\_" is not in the DSM-5.
  - D. When I use the word crazy, I am referring to something out of the \_\_\_\_\_ or someone who is behaving out of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - E. That is exactly who \_\_\_\_\_ was, and what \_\_\_\_\_ did!
- II. Questions about Jesus' state of mind come rushing to mind in this third chapter of Mark's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Jesus was drawing an uncomfortable amount of \_\_\_\_\_ to himself.
  - B. Two groups -- those who are \_\_\_\_\_ to him and those most \_\_\_\_\_ by him -- begin asking the same question: Is this guy crazy?
    1. His \_\_\_\_\_ were saying, "He is out of his mind."
    2. The \_\_\_\_\_ asserted, "He is possessed by Beelzebul."
  - C. Jesus, for his part, does not seem overly \_\_\_\_\_ by the accusations of insanity, being crazy, weird – out of the ordinary.

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\*Mark 3:20-35

- III. As crazy as it sounds, that should make sense.
- It makes sense that, in some way, as God breaks into our world through the Son, the Word and Spirit-filled people, God will, in some way, offend and jar the sensibilities of \_\_\_\_\_ at some time or another.
  - The world idolizes logic and reason, yet God's people live by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The world says, "You are entitled to \_\_\_\_\_ those that hurt you." Yet, we love our \_\_\_\_\_, and pray for our persecutors
  - So, if Christians are called crazy from time to time, well, as Jesus might have put it, "\_\_\_\_\_ to my world."
- IV. And what about the church? Think of the early church that actually \_\_\_\_\_ to believe that Jesus' death was not the end.
- What if the church today \_\_\_\_\_ that craziness – that out of the ordinary living of our faith?
  - What if, rather than worry about fitting in and being \_\_\_\_\_, the church chose to bear hug its weirdness?
  - Jesus' friends and family were \_\_\_\_\_ if he was crazy.
  - But \_\_\_\_\_ should be asking ourselves if we are crazy enough.

## *Daily Devotional Guide*

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

### **Monday, June 7**

Pastor Jack began the message with a question of whether we should use the word "crazy" as a matter of begin sensitive to others. The word crazy is in the DSM-5, the Diagnostic Manual of Mental Disorders; not as a clinical term. "Crazy" is the word

that describes something people with some types of anxiety are afraid of becoming or being seen as. Pastor Jack decided to use the word "crazy" with the explanation that it refers to something out of the ordinary or someone who is behaving out of the ordinary. It could also be used to describe a normal situation but upon deeper reflection does not make sense; like parking in a drive way and driving on the parkway. What words do you prefer not to use as an issue of sensitivity to others? Is crazy such a word for you? Language matters; and talking about language leads to a deeper understanding of its importance. Write your reflections here.

### **Tuesday, June 8**

Read Mark 3:20-35. The narrative of Jesus' life in Mark's Gospel travels very quickly. In this third chapter of Mark, Jesus has begun a ministry of healing and teaching. His popularity was rising as crowds were pressing in to gain a glimpse of him, maybe in the hopes of being blessed in some way.

As with most popular people, trends, or events, there always seems to be detractors – those who might be jealous or threatened by the accolades others receive. Jesus' family thought him crazy and the religious leaders of the day thought him possessed. Do you think it is human nature to oppose the success – especially quick success – of others? Why or why not? Write your thoughts here.

### **Wednesday, June 9**

Read Mark 3:20-35. As mentioned yesterday, Jesus was derided by both his family and the religious leaders of the day. But Jesus remains calm and in control. He doesn't seem particularly bothered by the comments of others.

H.G. Wells wrote, "For most people, the voice of their neighbors