Series: Crazy Life

Message: Peace in the Middle of Crazy March 13, 2011

Truths that never make it on a t-shirt

Trouble comes to everyone. Matthew 6:33

It will rain. Matthew 5:45

Not everyone will <u>like</u> you. Luke 6:22

No one is immune to <u>crazy</u>. John 16:33

Crazy comes and goes but God's peace can stay.

Peace is a gift from God.

John 14:27, Romans, 5:1-5, 1 Peter 4:12-13

Peace can grow with practice.

Philippians 4:7-9, 1 Peter 1:2-9

Peace must be <u>pursued</u>.

Psalms 34:12-15. Romans 14:9

NEXT STEPS

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation. Join with a life group and continue to grow by using these study questions this week.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

What are some of the crazy things in your life?

What crazy things do you share in common with your group?

What is your "craziest" crazy?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read John 16:25-33. How would Jesus' assurance of the Father's love help the disciples in the days just ahead of them?

How would Jesus' promise of peace and victory (v. 33) sustain them through crazy times and failure?

Which of the promises in this chapter have made the deepest impression on you? Why?

How can these promises strengthen your heart during the trials and discouragements of the future?

Peace in the midst of the craziness of life is found not in answers to every question but in a connection with Jesus Christ.

We will go through troubles and trials on this earth. It's not those outward circumstances that Jesus came to take care of for us. It's the inward part of us that He cares most about.

1 Samuel 16:7 says: The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

Look at the passages; find the promise made from God and our responsibility or condition for fulfilling that promise.

Bible reference: Philippians 4:6, 7

Promise:

Condition:

Bible reference: 1 Peter 4:12-14

Promise:

Condition:

Bible reference: John 15:5

Promise:

Condition:

What is the connection to God's promises, our inward peace and an ever-changing crazy world?

Take it home

Practice peace this week.

Pray for the crazy things in your life.

Remember that outward circumstances do not determine your peace.

Peace is the by-product of trust in God.

Peace is a by-product of obedience.

Peace is the by-product of dependence on God.

PRAYER REQUESTS