



It's Not Crazy Until You Do It

Part 1 - One Thing Discussion Guide

It's a new year...a new season...a fresh start. Many of us have talked about (or even made) resolutions. Yet what really matters is the "one thing" that God wants for us. This starts with us letting go of the things that hold us back. It continues with what we are seeking and believing. Take on the new year with God's Word for you!

Jump Start

1. What are your hopes and dreams for this year? Did you make a resolution?
2. *One thing to let go.* Read [Philippians 3:12-13](#). Our lives are full of successes and challenges: good things or hard, grief, suffering, achievements, or failures. There may even be dreams and pursuits that are not in line with God's will and plan. Which is hardest for you to let go of: success or hardship? Things that bring you joy or things that cause grief? What one thing are you deciding to let go?
3. Read [Isaiah 43:18-19](#). In this passage, what do we have to stop doing? What is God's part and promise? What is our responsibility?
4. *One thing you desire.* We were challenged to think beyond our superficial needs and wants. Read [Psalm 27:4](#). What is David's request? How closely does it line up with your "one thing"?
5. *One thing you believe.* King David went from shepherd boy to King. But it was a hard and treacherous road with enemies and hardship all around him. Yet he trusts in God. Read [Psalm 56:9-13](#). What promises do you see for yourself in this passage? If God has given you another passage and promise, share with your Life Group.
6. Final Thought: God doesn't want a resolution or even a commitment from you. God wants you to have a new heart, a new hope, a new future. What is your next step? If you can, share with one person who will pray with you about this change.

Deeper

Saul became Paul the Apostle. He had great success and plenty to be ashamed about in his life. Just like us.

7. **Read [Acts 7:55-8:3](#)** for the Bible's first mention of Saul. What did Saul do/not do? What was the attitude of his heart? How do you know?

8. But Saul didn't stay in that hateful place. **Read the next part of his story in [Acts 9:1-9](#)**. Consider these questions:
 - a. What was Saul's spiritual condition on the road?
 - b. Why do you think he was questioned about his actions?
 - c. Why do you think Jesus left him with this short dialogue, but no resolution?
 - d. Why do you think the men could hear (but not see) the exchange?
 - e. What did Saul do as he waited? What do you imagine was going on in his heart and mind?

9. After a time, God sent Ananias to help Saul. **Read [Acts 9:10-19](#)**. Think about these details.
 - a. What do you feel about Ananias from vs. 10?
 - b. How had God been present with Saul during this time?
 - c. Do you feel Ananias was justified in questioning God in vs. 13-14?
 - d. Do you sense God was offended or harsh with Ananias?
 - e. What was Ananias' demeanor when dealing with Saul?
 - f. Describe your feelings and thoughts about the simplicity of vs. 17-19?

The rest of Acts, Chapter 9, describes the beginning of Saul's ministry. It continues throughout the book of Acts. By Chapter 13, we find he is more often referred to as Paul. And he not only travels and teaches the Good News of Christ, but he begins to write letters back to the churches he started. These letters are contained in the New Testament and instruct believers, then and now, on God's ways and thoughts. They teach believers how to live and act towards others. The letters contain correction and encouragement, admonition and praise. Yet Paul still dealt with the same issues that we deal with.

10. **Read [Philippians 3:4-6](#)** for the reasons Paul could boast in his accomplishments. List them. Research Jewish tribes if you need to do so.
11. **Read [Philippians 3:7-8](#)**. What did Paul do with his triumphs and successes?
12. **Read [1 Timothy 1:13-15](#)**. What does Paul admit to having been? What does he do with his failures?
13. **Read [1 Corinthians 15:3-10](#)** for the nutshell of the Gospel and Paul's life-long philosophy and gratitude for God's grace. What attitude should you adopt for your own?