

LIFE APP

CRAZY TRAIN

CRAZY CONTROL

September 19-20, 2020

Daniel 4:14-17 NLT: The messenger shouted, “Cut down the tree and lop off its branches! Shake off its leaves and scatter its fruit! Chase the wild animals from its shade and the birds from its branches. But leave the stump and the roots in the ground, bound with a band of iron and bronze and surrounded by tender grass. Now let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, and let him live with the wild animals among the plants of the field. For seven periods of time, let him have the mind of a wild animal instead of the mind of a human. For this has been decreed by the messengers; it is commanded by the holy ones, so that everyone may know that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world. He gives them to anyone he chooses—even to the lowliest of people.”

LIFE GROUP / PERSONAL STUDY:

During this year everyone - literally everyone in the world - has been dealing with unusual, unprecedented, crazy situations that have caused all of us to feel like we're on a “crazy train” and we don't know where it's going or how to get it to stop. Even though we're dealing with all sorts of crazy emotions and thoughts, we need to look up and realize that God is still on His throne! He is in Complete Control! He is allowing all of these crazy things to happen for a purpose and we need to trust Him and not try to take matters into our own hands. We need to humble ourselves, pray, and seek God so that He will heal our land! God has given us a great example to look at in the book of Daniel!

Read Daniel 4:19-27 NLT:

1A) Briefly describe the interpretation that Daniel gave Nebuchadnezzar concerning his dream.

1B) What specific advice did Daniel give the king in verse 27?

1C) PERSONAL: How do you think this advice could be applied to the situations we find in the world today?

2A) In Daniel 4:28-33, what happened to Nebuchadnezzar and how does this prove that God is in control?

2B) According to Daniel 4:34-37, what did Nebuchadnezzar learn and how did he respond?

Read Daniel 5:

3A) Briefly describe what King Belshazzar did and what happened because of his attitude and actions.
Verses 1-12

3B) Briefly describe how Daniel became involved again, the message that he delivered to this king, and the proof again that God is in control. Verses 13-31

Read Galatians 6:7-9:

4A) PERSONAL: How do you think these factual stories from Daniel confirm the message from this passage?

4B) What else can we learn from Proverbs 16:18-22 that is confirmed in these stories?

Read Matthew 25:14-30:

5A) How does this parable reveal that we will actually receive when we serve?

5B) PERSONAL: Describe how you have received when you have served God with the gifts and talents He has given to you.

6) PERSONAL: How does 1 Peter 5:5-7 help you understand that we rise when we surrender?

7) PERSONAL: As you look at the craziness that is so prevalent in our world today, how does knowing that God is in control give you hope and encouragement?

ACT: Our daily challenge is to focus on and to sow God's Word into our lives and not focus on the craziness that surrounds us! We need to use the gifts God has given us to serve others and we will discover true joy as we do so, but above all we need to surrender to God by humbling ourselves, praying for God to show us the daily path to take, and to not try to fix things on our own. He is in control and He will help us! He will lift us up out of these difficult times and He will work through us as we trust in Him. When we do what is Right - we will not go crazy, because in Christ, we always have hope!

Daily Devotional: It always helps to look at the context of the passage. Then try to answer the following questions about the passage. Who is involved? What is going on? Where is the action taking place? When? How can this concept apply to my life? Why is it important? Also look for Commands, Warnings, and Examples to follow or not to follow.

- This week let's look at passages that describe why it's important for us to be humble.

Monday:

Psalm 69:32 NLT

The humble will see their God at work and be glad. Let all who seek God's help be encouraged.

Tuesday:

Matthew 5:3-5 NLT

"God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs. God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth."

Wednesday:

Luke 14:11 NLT

For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Thursday:

Ephesians 4:2 NLT

Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

Friday:

Philippians 2:3 NLT

Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.

Saturday:

James 4:6-10 NLT

And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

Sunday:

1 Peter 3:8 NLT

Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude.



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