



# LIFE GROUPS

Series: Crazy Makers

Scripture: Romans 12:9-18,  
Colossians 3:12-14

Date: April 22 & 23, 2017

## —[ LET'S START ]—

- Write down the name of someone who is one of your crazy makers. In which category or categories do they fit: Nitpicker, Narcissist, Noisemaker, Needy, Nuisance and/or Negative? Do you think this person knows they are a "crazy maker?"

## —[ LET'S TALK ]—

### **Romans 12:9-18, Colossians 3:12-14**

1. Read together Romans 12:9-18. Look closely at the first four words. What are some synonyms for "sincere" that would help us understand what Paul is saying in this passage? Who is it we are to love sincerely?
2. Try to view yourself from the outside and see yourself like someone else might. In what way might you be a crazy maker for someone else?
3. Look over verse 18 again. How far are we to go to be at peace with our crazy makers? What does that look like in practical terms?
4. Read Colossians 3:12-14. If we are "clothed" as the verse 12 suggests, why are crazy makers so challenging to us?

—[ LET’S ACT ]—

- Think back to the person you wrote down as your crazy maker. What practical steps can you take to be at peace with this person?
- Brad spoke of a psychiatrist writing for the *Huffington Post* who reported that we, as a society, are more annoyed with each other than ever. We’re less tolerant, more frustrated, feel more entitled, have higher expectations, and live more relationally frantic and fanatic than ever. So much so, that when anybody fails to meet our high expectations, our normal reaction is to feel that we have the right to get angry about it.
  - How do we offset that in our lives?
  - What could you say to someone who is complaining about one of their crazy makers that might help them see the underlying issues?
- A common first impulse when you encounter a difficult person is to avoid them. How can you get past that impulse and sincerely respond in love?

—[ SERMON REVIEW ]—

- Bible Passages: Romans 12:9-18, Colossians 3:12-14
- The Bible challenges us to love sincerely, even to love our crazy makers.
- We can learn from Paul’s writings that difficult people have a purpose in our lives:
  - To strengthen our ability to love
  - To remind us that we are difficult people, too
  - To challenge us to take difficult steps toward peace
- Pray to know why God has placed a difficult person in your life and pray for that difficult person.

—[ NOTES ]—

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