

## **“End-Time Insanity” – Chris Hodges**

**April 21, 2013**

### **Review It**

It's clear that culture is shifting all around us. As Christians, how can we live Godly in an ungodly age? Daniel and the Israelites faced this same challenge during the Babylonian exile. The book of Daniel reveals to us principles that help us remain steady, even as culture around us changes.

### **Talk About It**

1. Read Daniel 4:4. Compared to the rest of the world, Americans are overwhelmingly living contented and prosperous lives which makes it easy to take our eyes off of God. Are there areas of your life that you have become self-sufficient? What does the term “God-dependent” mean to you and how could it change your life?
2. Why do people tend to only turn to God after a tragedy or some painful experience? After 9/11, churches were full of people seeking answers. Discuss the ways a lifestyle of daily prayer can change everything, including how we respond when tragedy strikes.
3. Read 1 Corinthians 4:7. Discuss the difference between “returning” to God what is already His versus “giving” to God.
4. The popular verse Psalm 100:4 says “Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.” The Message paraphrase of that verse is interesting. It says “Enter with the password: Thank you! Make yourselves at home, talking praise. Thank him. Worship him.” If an attitude of thanksgiving is the password to His presence, how can a lifestyle of worship affect your life?

5. Read Isaiah 66:2. If we truly believe that God's ways are higher than our ways, that He knows what is best for us better than we do, then why don't we seek Him first in all things? Based on the verse in Isaiah, what is the result if we learn to seek His Word daily in all we do?

### **Think About It**

We tend to look to so many things in life as resources - our job, money, time, relationships, etc. Unfortunately, we sometimes place God on that list when He should be our source, not just another on a long list of resources. Like in the song "Jesus, be the center of it all" we must learn that all our resources must revolve around Jesus. He must be in the center of every area of our life. Is He? Read Matthew 6:33 and discuss.

### **Act On It**

In order to place Jesus in the center of your life there must be some decisions followed by actions. Decide today to daily read God's Word and commit to a One Year Bible plan (available on the church website and app). Decide that you will live a lifestyle of worship, then commit to worshipping God freely at church, home, in the car, and anywhere else you can. Decide to humble yourself and then pray to God daily thanking Him for being your source.

Pastor Chris defined "insanity" as "deranged thinking which leads to inner turmoil or chaos." By renewing our minds (Romans 12:2) with God's Word, worship, and thankful prayer, we enjoy God's peace in every area of life, in spite of the circumstances!