

# Weird is Better

*Weird: Because Normal Isn't Working*

Psalm 69:9-12 NLT

- IF YOU WANT WHAT NORMAL PEOPLE HAVE, DO WHAT NORMAL PEOPLE DO.
- IF YOU WANT WHAT FEW PEOPLE HAVE, DO WHAT FEW PEOPLE DO.

## **CONSTANT PRESSURE TO CONFORM**

*Two barriers on the road to weird*

### ❶ **THE INWARD PRESSURE: THE NEED TO PLEASE.**

*(Proverbs 29:25, 1 Samuel 15:24-25)*

### ❷ **THE OUTWARD PRESSURE: CRITICISM.**

*(John 15:18-20, Matthew 5:10-12)*

## **BOTTOM LINE:**

**I CAN'T PLEASE EVERYONE, BUT I CAN PLEASE GOD.**

*- 1 Thessalonians 2:4 NLT, Galatians 1:10, John 12:42-43*

Current Series: Weird: Because Normal Isn't Working  
*Weird is Better\_Part2*-by Pastor Jesse Elizondo (8/10/2014).

# REALife Application

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching on, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

- Who is someone that you would describe as being weird in a God way? What have you learned from them being weird?

**With your Bible or YouVersion, read Psalm 69:9-12.**

In this Psalm, David describes being insulted and ridiculed for being different for his faith in God.

- In what ways have you been insulted or made fun of because of your faith in Christ?
- How do you typically respond when people insult you because of your faith? How can you draw strength and encouragement from these situations?

**Read 1 Samuel 15:24-25, John 15:18-20 and Matthew 5:10-12.**

These passages show us two barriers on the road to being weird: the need to please and criticism.

- How consumed are you with what people think about you? How has that influenced your actions?
- Why is it so important that we not become obsessed with what others think about us?
- How can being criticized for your faith be good for your relationship with Christ?
- Who is someone you admire for handling criticism for their faith? What did you learn from this person?

**Read 1 Thessalonians 2:4 and Proverbs 29:25.**

These verses show us that we can't please everyone, but we can please God.

- What are some of the blessings you have experienced as a result of your pleasing God?
- What are some things you can do this week to help you focus more on pleasing God instead of others?

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