

Focus

When we step out in faith and do what God has created and called us to do, others may call it crazy, but God calls it faith.

Open

What is the craziest or most daring thing you have ever done?

Read

When reading about Noah, it's easy to think that what God called him to do was crazy. We might even find ourselves saying, "I'm glad God didn't call *me* to build on ark." But God has called all of us to build something; whether it's a ministry, business, family or life legacy. Walking in God's call may at times feel crazy, but we can put our trust in God because He is faithful. Isaiah 43:1–2 says, "But now, thus says the Lord, Who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you: I have called you by your name; You are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you." Proverbs 3:5–6, says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." Walking with God may at times feel crazy, but we are to trust in the Lord.

Not only is God completely trustworthy, but when He calls us to do something, He is gracious to give us confirmation. In Genesis 6:18 it says, "But I will confirm my covenant with you. So enter the boat—you and your wife and your sons and their wives." Just as Noah was called to what might seem like "crazy faith" we too have this call.

Galatians 2:20 says, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Our radical obedience to God may seem like crazy faith, but that is what we as believers are called to have. We are called to be crucified with Christ. We are called to take up our cross daily and to savor the sacrifice.

Talk

- 1. How are "crazy" and faith similar? How do you think they're different?
- 2. Can you think of a time God asked you to do something that at the time seemed crazy, but looking back you can see God's purposes in it? Is there something He is currently asking you to do that might seem crazy and you're wrestling with it?
- 3. What are some of the things that hinder us from walking in full obedience or submission to God's call or direction for our lives?
- 4. How is Noah's boat and stepping out in faith a blueprint for each of our lives?
- 5. Is sacrifice a necessary part of our Christian walk? Why or why not? What should our attitude be when we are walking out God's call for our lives?

Live

- 1. If Noah's boat is a metaphor for God's call on our lives, do you feel you know what "boat" God has asked you to build?
- 2. In what ways has God confirmed His calling to you? How have you responded or how are you currently responding to God regarding His calling for you?
- 3. Are you wrestling with the sacrifice or sacrifices that are involved with saying yes to God?
 - a. Take a minute to quiet your heart and ask God if you have fully submitted everything in your life, including yourself, to Him. Ask Him if there is anything you have not surrendered fully to Him.
 - b. Respond by recommitting your life to the Lord and by deciding today to lay aside anything that would hinder you from walking in the fullness of what He has created you to do.

Pray

Lord, I thank You that You said in Your Word that You will never leave us or forsake us. I thank You that You tell us in Joshua 1:9 to "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Thank You that You love us and have a call on each and every one of our lives, but most importantly, thank You that You have called us to be in a loving relationship with You, our heavenly Father. Teach us to walk in Your ways and help us to submit all that we are and all that we do fully to You each and every day. Amen.