About This Study Guide
Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, New International Version.

A Note to Participants: This study guide is for your personal use and is designed to help you get the most out of our study of Crazy Love by Francis Chan. We encourage you to read the assigned chapter and answer the questions of the study guide in order to be prepared for the discussion at your group meeting. Also, please do not skip over the Challenge for the Week section. Give these a try.
This is where we become “doers of the Word” and not “hearers” only. This is a lengthy study. There will be challenges along the way. Please do your best to keep up, attend the meetings, and encourage your fellow group members to do the same.
Chapter 1: Stop Praying

1. Write down what you believe is the main point of Chapter 1.

2. Look up the following verses and write down what each verse tells us about who God is.
   a. 1 Peter 1:14-16 --
   b. Psalm 102:12, 27 --
   c. Hebrews 4:13 --
   d. Daniel 4:35 --
   e. Proverbs 8:13 --
   f. Revelation 4:11 --

3. Read A. W. Tozer’s quote on page 32. What is the purpose of humans on this earth (and in heaven)? When you look at the characteristics of God in question 2 above, how should that enhance your purpose in life?

4. Go to www.crazylovebook.com and watch the videos Awe Factor and Just Stop and Think. Write down your thoughts about the beauty and majesty of God and His creation.
5. Read Revelation 4 and Isaiah 6:1-7. Imagine you’re in the throne room. Put in your own words what you see, hear, feel, taste and/or smell.

6. What do you think would come out of your mouth the moment you saw God? What would be the first words you would say?

7. How was your relationship with God and your prayer life different after reading chapter 1? If it wasn’t different enough, how would you like to see it changed?

8. Describe your prayer life...

9. Chan states, “There is an epidemic of spiritual amnesia going around, and none of us is immune. No matter how many fascinating details we learn about God’s creation, no matter how many pictures we see of His galaxies, and no matter how many sunsets we watch, we still forget.” (31) Why do we forget?

**Challenge for the Week:**
Pick one day this week and ask God to show you an aspect of who He is. Think of one of the attributes of God given to us in Scripture. Then, throughout the day, keep your eyes and ears open to how He is revealing Himself in this particular way. For example, God is Creator. So, ask Him to show you how He is Creator. Write down the attribute you have chosen and what God showed you. Be ready to share this with your group at your next meeting.
Commit to praying for the members of your small group this week and throughout this study.
Chapter 2: You Might not Finish This Chapter

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Read James 4:13-17
   a. Who is speaking in verse 13?

   b. What important piece is missing from this business proposal in verse 13?

   c. James responds in verse 14 by speaking about life. What is our life like?

   d. In verse 15, what must be included into our plans?

   e. In verses 16 & 17, what are the two sins James addresses?

3. Define “worry” and “stress”? Why are these two sinful? (See page 44)
4. Think about some people in your life who have died abruptly. What were some of their achievements in life and what were their regrets?

5. If today was the day you died, what would you regret and why? What can you change about your life today to avoid these regrets?

6. When Francis talks about being alone with God, how do you respond to those words? Can you relate? Do you walk with God, intimately and regularly? Or are your experiences with God usually mediated by something or someone (books, sermons, pastor’s voice, fellowship, etc.)?

7. Name one person in your life who lives as if each day is his or her last. What is this person’s effect on people around him or her? Does living that way make him or her seem different? Why?
8. Francis writes, “The point of your life is to point to Him. Whatever you are doing, God wants to be glorified, because this whole thing is His. It is His movie, His world, His gift.” (46-47) what are you doing right now to point to Him? What part are you playing in His movie? What gift has He given you that He wants you to use for His glory?

9. List the things that keep you distracted? (good and bad)

10. What would it take to adjust your lifestyle and mentality in order to put the most important things back into their proper place?

**Challenge for the Week:**
Commit to memorizing 1 Corinthians 10:31, “So whatever you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” Make a conscious effort to live with this verse in mind this week. Be ready to share with your group at your next meeting how this verse changed your routine this week.
Re-read “Since I Have My Life Before Me” on page 49 of your book. Write your own statement.
Chapter 3: Crazy Love

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. Don’t rush. Take your time to soak in all the tremendous truths found in these verses.
   a. In verses 1-3 Paul paints a dramatic picture of the life a person lives when he or she does not know Jesus Christ. Write down a few words or phrases that describe humans before coming to Him.

   b. Write down the words in verses 4-7 that describe God. Now underline the title “Christ” in these four verses. Take a few minutes to praise Jesus for what He has given you as a result of giving up His life.

   c. Fill in the blanks in the following “personalized” version of verses 8-10:
   “For it is by ______ I have been saved, through _____ -- and this not from myself, it is the _____ of God – not by _____, so that I can boast. For I am God's ____________, created in Christ Jesus to do good ______, which God prepared in advance for ____ to do.”

3. Pick one word or short phrase to describe your desired relationship with your heavenly Father. (See pages 58-59)

4. Describe the difference between knowing God intellectually and knowing God intimately?

5. Which of those it your default setting when thinking of God’s love?
6. Francis says, “Most of us, to some degree, have a difficult time understanding, believing, or accepting God’s absolute and unlimited love for us.” (55-56) Why is this so?

7. Are you in love with God or just His stuff or just what benefits you?

8. How does God demonstrate His love for you? Be specific.

**Challenge for the Week:**
Commit to memorizing Ephesians 2:4-5. Write it on a post-it note, an index card, and on a piece of paper. Put one on your mirror in your bathroom, one on your car dashboard, and one next to your computer monitor or other place you will see it frequently.
Chapter 4: Profile of the Lukewarm

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Beginning with page 68 there are 18 descriptions of LUKEWARM PEOPLE. Choose six of them – the ones that make you say “ouch” or make you squirm – and summarize what a lukewarm person looks like or lives like. Then write down one verse and summarize what the verse is saying to you.

   #1 – Lukewarm people . . .
   Verse:

   #2 – Lukewarm people . . .
   Verse:

   #3 – Lukewarm people . . .
   Verse:

   #4 – Lukewarm people . . .
   Verse:

   #5 – Lukewarm people . . .
   Verse:

   #6 – Lukewarm people . . .
   Verse:

3. Would you describe yourself as totally in love with God? Or half-hearted, lukewarm, and partially committed fit better? What evidence is there to support your answer?
4. Work through the following scriptures and note any challenges or realizations that things you need to work on.

Isaiah 29:13 –

Isaiah 58:6-7 –

Matthew 5:43-47 –

Matthew 7:21-23 –

Matthew 10:32-33 –

Matthew 21:28-31 –

Matthew 22:37-38 –

Matthew 23:5-7 –

Matthew 23:25-28 –


Luke 12:16-21 –

Luke 14:12-14 –

Luke 14:31-33 –


Romans 6:1-2 –

1st Timothy 6:17-18 –
James 1:22 –

James 4:17 –

Revelation 3:1 –

5. With those scriptures in mind what stands out to you the most?

6. With those scriptures in mind what hits you the hardest?

**Challenge for the Week:**
Pick one of the lukewarm characteristics to focus on this week. Spend 15-20 minutes getting to the heart of this lukewarm characteristic.
1. Identify the main sin of this lukewarm characteristic.
2. Find verses that combat this lukewarm characteristic. You can look in a study Bible, a concordance, or by asking one of your pastors or fellow group members.
3. Pray, asking God to help you to battle this sin.
4. Think of one or two tangible things you can do this week to help you fight against this lukewarm characteristic. It may mean fasting one meal, getting up early one morning to pray, getting home early to spend an afternoon walking outside and talking with your spouse or child or friend about God. Be creative in your application.
Chapter 5: Serving Leftovers to a Holy God

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Look up the following verses in your Bible and write out in your own words what the author is teaching:
   a. James 2:19 –
   b. 1 John 2:3-4 –
   c. Matthew 16:24-25 –

3. Read and write out 1 Corinthians 13, substituting your name, or “I”, for love every time it appears, i.e. I am patient, I am kind, etc. As Dr. Phil would ask, “So, how does that make you feel?”

4. Discuss the solution to living a “lukewarm life.”
5. What are some things that Christians give to God as leftovers? Are you offering God leftovers?

6. Being as honest as you can, discuss with the group any doubts you had with your salvation or your relationship with God after reading this chapter. Where did this chapter leave you?

7. There are many reasons we have for not following Jesus. One of the more common ones is fear, although we rarely admit it. What is one thing that Jesus is asking you to do? One thing you know He's asking of you, but you're afraid of? What is the worst that could happen if you followed Him in that way? What's the best?

Challenge for the Week:
Writer Annie Dillard says, "How we spend our day is, of course, how we spend our lives." Pick a day from last week. Beginning with the moment you awoke, go back through the day and write down everything you can remember regarding how you “spent” the day. We don’t save time: we just spend it. Don’t embellish or fudge the truth; just write down your day. Is that “day” reflective of how you’re spending your life? Don’t answer too quickly. Now pick a day that is coming up and try and live that day giving your best first to God.
Chapter 6: When You’re in Love

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Turn in your Bible to 1 John 4:7-21. Read these verses and underline or highlight the words love or loved.
   a. According to verse 7 where does love come from?
   b. According to verses 9-10 how did God show His love for us?
   c. According to verse 12 what happens when we love one another?
   d. According to verse 15 what must we do?
   e. According to verse 18 what’s the relationship between love and fear?
   f. According to verse 19 why do we love?
   g. According to verses 20-21 who are we to love?

3. Define the word love from a Christian perspective. How is God’s definition different from the world’s definition of love?

4. Intimacy vs. Reverence: which do you struggle with in your relationship with God?
5. What kind of baggage do you carry around with you in your life? What hinders you from receiving God’s love and from loving others?

6. Turn to page 100 in your book and re-read John Piper’s quote from God is the Gospel. How would you answer the question Piper poses? Why?

7. Think about Paul’s words in Galatians 5:13-14. How do love and freedom keep us from sin?

Challenge for the Week:
Turn to page 109 in your book and re-read the second paragraph which includes the quotation from playwright George Bernard Shaw. Commit to living on purpose this week. Is there someone to whom you can show God’s love? Is there someone you need to forgive or ask to forgive you? Is there a secret act of kindness you can do for someone in need? Also, try to go through the week without complaining about anything.
Turn to page 110 and re-read the section on “SomeOne I Can Be Real With.” Write out your own prayer and pray it aloud every day this week. Make note of the changes this brings about in you and how you relate to God and to others this week.
Chapter 7: Your Best Life . . . Later

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Turn in your Bible to Hebrews 11 and read verses 7-16. There are three people who are commended for their faith in these verses. Write down what they had to do in faith. Also, write down what may have kept them from acting in faith.
   a. Noah (v. 7):

   b. Abraham (vv. 8-10):

   c. Sarah (vv. 11-12):

   d. According to verses 13 and 14, why were these three able to do what they were asked to do?

3. Define the word faith from a Christian perspective. How is God’s definition different from the world’s definition of faith? (Hint: Look up Hebrews 11:1)
4. Which examples of faith inspire you the most? Why?

5. What keeps you from living a life of faith?

6. What are you doing right now that requires faith? It may help to break this question in half. First, answer: What am I doing right now? Then, look at those “right now” things and ask if any of them requires faith.

7. On page 116 of your book Francis asks, “How would my life change if I actually thought of each person I came into contact with as Christ – the person driving painfully slow in front of me, the checker at the grocery store who seems more interested in chatting than ringing up my items, the member of my own family with whom I can’t seem to have a conversation and not get annoyed?” How would you answer that question?

Challenge for the Week:
What of your “silly things” can you give away to someone who is in need? Give it away. No excuses, give something away that you own.
This week make the effort to see each person with whom you come in contact as Christ. Pray for them. Speak to them. Help them if they are in need.
How might God be asking you to take a “step of faith” and move out of your complacency and deeper into His “Crazy Love” in these areas of your life:
Chapter 8: Profile of the Obsessed

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Beginning on page 130 there are 13 profiles of the obsessed. Choose six of them, the ones that hit home, the ones that make you say, “I wish that described me.” Summarize what an obsessed disciple looks like or lives like, then write down one verse and summarize what the verse is saying.

#1 – Obsessed people . . .
Verse:

#2 – Obsessed people . . .
Verse:

#3 – Obsessed people . . .
Verse:

#4 – Obsessed people . . .
Verse:

#5 – Obsessed people . . .
Verse:

#6 – Obsessed people . . .
Verse:

3. Turn to Philippians 1:6 in your Bible and fill in the blanks of this personalized version: I am ______________ of this, that He who began a __________ __________ in me will carry it on to ________________ until the day of __________ __________.
4. What risks might God be calling you to take?

5. Define obsessed. Are you obsessed with the world or obsessed with Christ? How can you tell? How can others tell?

6. Have you ever tried to do something crazy for God only to be discouraged by another Christian? What?

7. Have you ever been the discouraging Christian? When?
Challenge for the Week:
In our own power we cannot be obsessed with Christ, but we can ask God to create within us a passion for Him each new day. Ask God to set you free from your obsession with the world and cultivate within you an all consuming passion for Him. Look at the list of profiles you chose for question 2 above. Take time and ask God how He may grant you the grace to become one, or two, or three of those profiles. Write down what you will do to change your life in different areas so that your love for Jesus will become a “pure and holy passion, a magnificent obsession.” Be creative in your applications, this is the adventurous part!

Profile #1:
Motivation: God wants me to be ______________ (profile) because . . .
Application: God wants me to . . .
Therefore, with God's help, this week I will . . .
Profile #2:
Motivation: God wants me to be ______________ (profile) because . . .
Application: God wants me to . . .
Therefore, with God’s help, this week I will . . .
Profile #3:
Motivation: God wants me to be ______________ (profile) because . . .
Application: God wants me to . . .
Therefore, with God’s help, this week I will . . .
Chapter 9: Who Really Lives That Way?

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. In your opinion, what were the most “amazing” testimony and the most “surprising” testimony from Chapter 9? Why?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 11:22-33. What can we learn about Paul’s obedience to Christ from his life?

4. What legacy do you want to leave behind? What do you want to be known for?

5. As a Christian, whom do you look up to and why?
6. What character qualities, activities, and attitudes do these examples have that you would like to imitate in your life?

7. What excuses have you used in the past to not live this way? Why and how should you move beyond these excuses?

**Challenge for the Week:**
Obey God’s command to encourage each other in the faith. Contact someone in your group this week and encourage them in their faith. Do something “risky” for God this week.
We can learn much from godly men and women who have journeyed on the path of faith before us. Do a little research on the internet, or go to the library and read a book on one of the following:
- Jonathan Edwards
- John Bunyan
- Adoniram Judson
- George Mueller
- Charles Spurgeon
- Martin Luther
- John Newton
- William Cowper
- Fanny Crosby
- Suzanna Wesley
- Catherine of Siena
- Amiee Semple McPherson
- Lottie Moon
Chapter 10: The Crux of the Matter

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5.
   a. From verses 1-2, what did Paul proclaim to the Corinthians?

   b. From verses 3-4, what was Paul’s life like when he visited and shared with the believers in the city of Corinth?

   c. From verses 4-5, what do we need to remember when serving God?

3. On page 168 Francis writes, “A friend of mine once said that Christians are like manure: spread them out and they help everything grow better, but keep them in one big pile and they stink horribly.” And then he asks several questions: “Which are you? The kind that reeks, around which people walk a wide swath? Or the kind that trusts God enough to let Him spread you out – whether that means going outside your normal group of Christian friends, increasing your material giving, or using your time to serve others?” How do you answer those questions?

4. Francis says, “We each need to discover for ourselves how to live this day in faithful surrender to God as we “continue to work out our salvation with fear and trembling.” (Phil. 2:12) (165). During the course of this study have you discovered how to do that? What changes have you made? What changes has God made in you?
5. Francis also asks, “Have you ever said, “I was made for this moment”? Do you believe you were crafted for specific good works, things that God knew before you even existed? Or do you compare your life to others and lament what you have been given?” (167).

6. Read Hebrews 10:23-25. Has your life made a positive impact on your church family or has it had a negative one, or even a neutral one? What are some ways you can begin or in other cases continue to be a positive impact upon your church family? What are some tangible ways we can spur one another on?

7. What unique gifts, talents, and interests do you have? What do you do passionately and very well?
8. How might you be able to use these aspects of your personal makeup for the glory of God?

Challenge for the Week:
Accept Francis’ challenge: Try for a whole day to be conscious of heaven. Realize that so much is going on outside of this dimension and our existence. God and His angels are watching, even now. (171)

Fast from something this week. This may mean that you fast for one meal, you fast from shopping online, you fast from watching TV, you fast from working out, you fast from talking for a period of time each day. Use that time to spend with the Lord in prayer asking Him what He wants you to do as a result of this study. Is there a change in your lifestyle, a change in your spending habits, a change in your view of sin, a change in your heart’s attitude, or a change in how you see and love God?
Chapter 11: A Lot Should Change in Five Years

Note: Change is not only good, it critical. Examine your heart. Repent. Change. Be transformed. Romans 12:1-2 says “I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, And be not fashioned according to the is world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, and ye may prove what is the good and acceptable will of God.”

1. What is the main point of this chapter?

2. Where have you been these last five years? Notes of your spiritually journey.

3. What have you learned? Notes of what your spiritually journey has taught you.
4. Have you ever shared your faith? Explain how that went.

5. Define “courage”.

6. Define “humility”.

7. Define “trust”.

8. Define “trusting in Jesus”.

Challenge:
Allow Christ to transform you into the being you were created to be!
Praise Him with all of your life!