



THE CRAZY CYCLE

1. What are the six types of crazy makers and what is the definition of each one? Which type do you: a. have in your life now and b. drives you the most crazy?
2. Read 1 Peter 3:9 and Proverbs 19:11. Pastor Rick said that the first way to become stronger than the crazy makers is to become unoffendable. What does this mean? Do you think you can become unoffendable? What would you need to do to become unoffendable?
3. Read Colossians 3:13,14. What was the second way to become stronger than the crazy makers? Why is this so hard to do?
4. What is the third way to become stronger? What does Proverbs 26:20 say will happen if we do this?
5. Pastor Rick said that crazy makers try to manipulate us into responding to them in the way that they want. How do you prevent yourself from falling for their manipulation? Is it showing love to them if you allow them to manipulate you? Why not?
6. The last way to be stronger than the crazy makers is to always take the high road. What do you think this means? Who is it that determines what the high road is in every situation you face? Read Romans 12:17-21. According to this passage, what is the high road when dealing with crazy makers?

Answers

- 1. The six types with their definition are: a. The demanding who are bossy, they're pushy and try to control you; b. The disapproving are picky, highly critical and expect you to be perfect; c. The deafening are loud, they like to talk and want everyone to hear them; d. The destructive have uncontrolled anger and explode on others; e. The discontented get their feelings hurt very easily and are very touchy; f. The demeaning are rude and insulting and use caustic language.*
- 2. To be unoffendable means that you choose not to be offended by anything anyone does to you and to never seek revenge for the things people do to you. In order to become unoffendable you must adopt the same attitude toward people that Jesus had: You look beyond their actions to see what their needs are and you seek to meet their need for God in their lives. You turn them over to God and allow Him to be their judge, not you.*
- 3. The second way to be stronger was to not wait for apologies, just forgive people whether they apologize or not. This is hard because until someone apologizes we feel that they do not deserve our forgiveness. If we forgive them before they apologize, we believe they will never admit they were wrong.*
- 4. The third way to be stronger is to refuse to gossip about crazy makers. Proverbs 26:20 says that if we do not gossip, it will defuse whatever the situation is with the crazy maker. If we gossip, it will make the situation worse.*
- 5. You prevent yourself from being manipulated by standing up to them and refusing to give them the response that they want from you. It is not loving to allow people to manipulate you and give in to what they want because you become an enabler of their behavior and encourage them to continue to manipulate people.*
- 6. The high road is to always do the right thing and God is the one who defines what the right thing is in every situation, not us. Romans 12:17-21 tells us that when you take the high road you: Do not repay them for their evil behavior by punishing them; you attempt to live at peace with them; you do not take revenge on them but allow God to deal with their bad behavior; you actually do things that are helpful and beneficial for them. The purpose for doing this is that you show them another way to live: the way of love. You kill them with kindness so that they will see the difference in you and be attracted to living life God's way. You respond to them in the exact opposite way that they expect you to respond.*

