

Summer Reading Packet for Incoming Freshmen
Linfield Christian School

Welcome to Freshmen English! We are so glad that God has brought you into this class, and we are excited about next year. In order to successfully prepare for the school year, you will need to read *Crazy Love* by Francis Chan.

You will then complete the corresponding assignment this summer: The assignment must be typed in Times New Roman, size 12 font. You must also respond using complete sentences in order to receive credit. The first page must have the following in the upper left corner, double spaced:

Your Name

Mrs. Conner

English I

Due Date

Each subsequent page needs your last name in the upper right corner with the page number:

Conner 1

This assignment is due the first day of class. Please have your pages printed and stapled together before coming into class.

Happy Reading! See you in the Fall!

In Christ's service,
Mrs. Conner

Directions: For each chapter of this text, there will be questions for you to answer followed by a challenge. The challenges do not require any written response, however, they are important for the authentication of your experience. Francis Chan desires for readers to have a faith that is active. These challenges are opportunities for you to apply your learning.

Read the Preface and Chapter 1 and answer the following questions:

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 30. 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.

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 (you can refer to # 2). 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.

Read Chapter 2 and then answer the following questions:

1. What is the main point of this chapter?
2. Read James 4:13-17
 - a. Who is speaking in verse 13?
 - b. Verse 14 speaks about life and makes a comparison through the use of a simile. What is our life like?
 - c. In Verse 15, what must be included in our plans?
 - d. In verses 16 & 17, what are the two sins James addresses?
3. What are *worry* and *stress*? Why are these two sinful? (see page 42)

4. 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, fellowship, etc.)?
5. 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" (44-45). 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?

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.

Read Chapter 3 and then answer the following questions:

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. 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 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. Francis says, "Most of us, to some degree, have a difficult time understanding, believing, or accepting God's absolute and unlimited love for us" (53-54). Why is this so?
4. Are you in love with God or just His stuff or just what benefits you?

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 places you will see it frequently.

Read Chapter 4 and then answer the following questions:

1. What is the main point of this chapter?
2. Beginning with page 68, there are 18 descriptions of lukewarm people. Choose three of them – the ones that make you say “ouch” or make you squirm – and summarize what a lukewarm person looks like or lives like.
 - a. Lukewarm people . . .
 - b. Lukewarm people . . .
 - c. Lukewarm people . . .
3. What changes can you make in your areas of lukewarmness?
4. Turn to page 66 and read Matthew 13:44 and the next two paragraphs. Summarize what is being said. How much would you pay for the field? What does this say about the posture of your heart?

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.
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 parent, sibling, or friend about God. Be creative in your application.

Read Chapter 5 and then answer the following questions:

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--
 - d. Luke 14:33 --
3. Have you ever thought that there was a difference between the “spiritual ones” – missionaries, pastors, small group leaders, etc. – and “regular” Christians? What are the dangers of thinking this way?

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. Here are some examples:

- Giving the beginning of your day to be with the Lord in His Word (yes, even before opening the sports section of the newspaper or the latest magazine).
- Giving God the first few minutes of each new hour to quickly pray with Him (set a timer).
- Think about how you can encourage someone during the day.
- Spend your commute listening to worship music.
- Tell someone about what God is teaching you.
- Eat with a grateful heart to God.
- Pray for a loved one.

Read Chapter 6 and then answer the following questions:

1. What is the main point of this chapter?
2. Read 1 John 4:7-21 and then answer the following questions:
 - 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 of love different from the world’s definition of love?
4. 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?

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.

Read Chapter 7 and then answer the following questions:

- 1.) What is the main point of this chapter?
- 2.) Turn 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 of faith different from the world's definition of faith? (Hint: Look up Hebrews 11:1)
- 4.) Rather than talking about the sinfulness of owning and buying things, talk about the silliness of the things you own in light of eternal rewards. What are the top five things you own and why are they special? What keeps you from thinking about the needs of your extended family? Friends? Neighbors? The Poor? The Homeless?
- 5.) On page 118 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:

- o In your entertainment
- o Your use of your time
- o The way you spend your money
- o The way you talk

Read Chapter 8 and answer the following questions:

1. What is the main point of this chapter?
2. Beginning on page 130 there are 13 profiles of the obsessed. Choose three of them, the ones that hit home, the ones that make you say, “I wish that described me.” Then summarize the profile of the obsessed in your own words.
 - a. Obsessed people . . .
 - b. Obsessed people . . .
 - c. Obsessed people . . .
3. Fill in the blanks of Philippians 1:6 - I am _____ of this, that He who began a _____ in me will carry it on to _____ until the day of _____.
4. Define obsessed. Are you obsessed with the world or obsessed with Christ? How can you tell? How can others tell?

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!

Read Chapter 9 and then answer the following questions:

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 kind of legacy do you want to leave behind? What do you want to be known for?

Challenge for the 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: o Jonathan Edwards o John Bunyan o Adoniram Judson o George Mueller o Charles Spurgeon o Martin Luther o John Newton o William Cowper o Fanny Crosby o Suzanna Wesley o Catherine of Siena o Amiee Semple McPherson o Lottie Moon

Read Chapter 10 and answer the following questions:

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. 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) How do you answer these questions?
4. Read Hebrews 10:23-25. Has your life made a positive impact upon the 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 the church family? What are some tangible ways we can spur one another on?

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 attitudes, or a change in how you see and love God?