

# MAD WORLD

LIVING SANE IN A CRAZY WORLD

## Mad World Series

Small Group Material

Participant Guide

## Part 1 - "In A World Gone Mad"

April 30th, 2017

**Bottom Line:** *If madness stems from distrust then sanity comes from trust.*

**Study Verses:** *James 3:16, 1 John 2:15-17, James 4:4-6*

### Key Points

- *Overreaction has become the new reaction.*
- *Love is the language of relationships and the currency of love is trust.*
- *The fall isn't about a broken rule, but rather broken trust.*
- *The madness of the world is a result of a broken foundation.*
- *Grace is about receiving what you've been entrusted with.*
- *Trust is a gravitational force. We are pulled in the direction of that which we trust.*
- *Wherever you find your sufficiency is where you'll find what is at the center of your life.*
- *You find your center by pinpointing where you are drawn to trust.*
- *Self-centered people demand that the rest of the world revolve around their orbit.*
- *We live in a culture that applauds independence.*
- *Trusting ourselves drives self-sufficiency. Self-sufficiency leads to self-centeredness.*

## ENCOUNTER

- Complete the following sentence: The world we live in is \_\_\_\_\_. What makes you answer in the way that you do?
- We can all agree that we live in a broken world, yet opinions differ on the cause of the madness. From your perspective, how did the world become broken?
- As we begin this series, what would you say is the key to living sane in a crazy world?
- Overreaction has become the new reaction. How have you seen this statement played out in culture and your own life? What's the danger with having this type of mindset?

## FORMATION

- Read James 3:16. According to this passage, what fuels the discord we experience in this world? Why do these qualities thrive whenever distrust is present?
- Read 1 John 2:15-17. Over the years how have you wrestled with this passage? What does it mean to "love the world"? Why do you think the author used the word "love" to describe our relationships with the world and with God? What connection does love have to do with our relationships?
- Read James 4:4-6. What is wrong with being "friends with the world"? Why does this friendship fuel God's jealousy? How does our connection with the world influence our understanding of the purpose God has for us?

## EXPRESSION

- What are some typical approaches people take in an attempt to navigate through the chaos? What tends to be your response to the madness?
- Trust is a gravitational force. We are pulled in the direction of that which we trust. What are you drawn to in the middle of the chaos? How does your answer speak to what you trust?
- Wherever you find your sufficiency is where you'll find what is at the center of your life. Where are you drawing your sufficiency from? How is this influencing your response to the chaos of this world?