

Small Group Study Guide



“Crazy Rich Asians”

July 7, 2019

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the willingness of Jesus to humble himself to become human. And we thank you for his ultimate sacrifice for us on the cross. Father, you have called us to have the same mindset as Jesus, but you know that we often struggle with living humble and selfless lives. Today we ask you to show us how to have the same mind as Jesus and then give us the courage to live it out in our lives. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE:

Philippians 2:3-4

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails.

Colossians 3:2

2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Ephesians 6:4

4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

INTRODUCTION

Crazy Rich Asians is a 2018 Romantic Comedy based on the 2013 novel of the same name. The film follows native New Yorker and Chinese American Rachel Chu to Singapore to meet her boyfriend's family. Rachel is shocked to find out that her boyfriend's family are the biggest real estate developers in Singapore and extremely wealthy. The film deals with Rachel trying to be accepted by his family. So where does this film point us toward the Gospel?

In Crazy Rich Asians, Eleanor argues that happiness shouldn't be a person's primary focus in life; instead, it should be other people. Rachel, too, provides an example of this later in the film. This doesn't mean we are to never take care of ourselves. But it does mean that our primary focus should be like that of Christ: others. What is one thing you can do this week to put someone else first.

QUESTIONS

- 1) Did you see the movie Crazy Rich Asians? If yes, what do you think about the movie? If no, what is your favorite Romantic Comedy?
- 2) In Crazy Rich Asians, the Young family is treated poorly by the hotel clerk and manager because they are Chinese. What are some ways you can build bridges instead of erecting barriers with people who are different from you (race, ethnicity, socio-economic status etc.)?
- 3) In Crazy Rich Asians, Nick's family does not accept Rachel for various reasons. The only way Nick can marry her is for him to give up his family and wealth which he is willing to do. However, Rachel does not want him to do this so she turns down his proposal. Rachel was willing to sacrifice any future relationship with Nick so that he won't lose his family. Would it have been difficult for you to walk away from someone you love in order for that person to not lose their family?
- 4) In Crazy Rich Asians, Nick's friends label Rachel "a gold digger," but in truth, she loved him before she learned of his wealth. In Paul's famous statement on love, wealth and money are never mentioned. Does wealth and money influence the way you treat others? Why or why not?
- 5) In Crazy Rich Asians, the women read Colossians 3:2 and Ephesians 6:4 at a Bible study led by Eleanor. The Bible study serves as a window into the tension between Rachel and Eleanor, as well as the tension within Eleanor herself. How do you set your mind on things that are above and not on things of this world? Do you struggle with this?

FINAL APPLICATION

What is one thing that you can do this week to put someone else's needs ahead of your own.