



I wonder what the most daring thing you have ever done? For some of you it will be sky diving, bungee jumping or some other extreme sport but for most people it may be speaking in front of a crowd, standing up for some at school or work when are being treated unfairly, or trying some strange food that you never tasted before. Many of us have played the game "Truth or Dare" at sometime in our and being daring can come quite naturally to some people while for others it is something that traumatizes them just to thinking about it.

I believe that we are at a time in history when God's church, his followers, need to take on the mantle of "Daring to be Different." Now I don't mean different in a weird way but different to what society thinks is normal. You know what I mean, making life not all about you but putting others first. It's about helping people when no one else is looking and just going out of our way to brighten other peoples day. Daring to be different is about swimming against the tide of normality and making people stop and ask why are you different. It is sad that to so many of this generation don't see church as irrelevant and don't see any difference in the lives of those who claim to follow Jesus and those who don't even believe in him! We have been playing it safe for so long that we aren't even on

peoples radar anymore. We have blended in so well that people struggle to see the difference Jesus makes to our lives. Its time for you and I to start showing the difference that he makes. That doesn't mean you have to become a preacher, no, it just needs you to become visible. Jesus and his disciples dared to be different and they changed the world. People followed because they saw the difference in their lives. Remember these simple fishermen became fishers of men. They dared to leave everything and set out on a different journey.

How different that is today when we want things to say the same, especially in church, because it's the way we have always done it. Jesus was a risk taker, he

took on the religious leaders and everyone could see he was different by what he said and what he did. Let me ask you "Why would you want to fit in, when you can stand out?" When Jesus, the King of Kings was born He did not conform to the world. Instead Jesus stood out, he reached out to the poor and the needy. No king would be found touching lepers, or speaking to them, no king would be found forgiving those who have sinned against them, who did wrong against them. No king would sacrifice Himself for His people. That's right no King except Jesus that is. This King of Kings, this Savior, this Messiah, did not fit it, He stood out.

Today we are called not to fit into the world but to stand out, to stand out for Jesus. We are called not conform to the worldly ways of life, but to stand out from them. Jesus commands us to be different than the rest of the world. Do others see you as different?

If the answer is no, then they need to start seeing you "Daring to be Different!"

