

First Baptist Church of Highland Park
Men's Bible Study Handout
Monday, April 6, 2026



Dare To Be Different

Chapter Summary (Mark Batterson - Gradually Then Suddenly, Chapter 6)

In "Dare To Be Different," Mark Batterson emphasizes that meaningful change and lasting impact come from intentional, countercultural choices. Instead of conforming to societal norms, believers are called to live distinct lives shaped by God's truth. Batterson highlights that small, consistent decisions to think, act, and live differently over time lead to extraordinary spiritual outcomes. The chapter challenges us to embrace discipline, identity, and purpose, reminding us that God uses those who are willing to stand out rather than blend in.

Anchor Scripture (Romans 12:2, NLT)

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think..."

Opening Thought

What separates champions from everyone else? It's not just talent—it's discipline, mindset, and the willingness to be different. Everybody can play, but not everybody is willing to live different.

Teaching Points

1. Different Thinking Produces Different Living (Romans 12:2)

Transformation begins in the mind. Champions think differently before they ever perform differently. If you think like everyone else, you will live like everyone else.

2. Different Standards Require Daily Discipline (Daniel 1:8)

Daniel decided ahead of time not to compromise. Being different is not accidental—it is intentional. You don't rise to the occasion; you fall to your level of preparation.

3. Different Choices Lead to Distinct Outcomes (1 Peter 2:9)

God calls us to stand out, not blend in. If you want what others don't have, you must do what others won't do.

Key Insight

Small differences over time create massive distinctions. Consistency in the right direction leads to breakthrough.



Discussion Questions

- Where is God calling you to be different instead of blending in?
- What daily habits are shaping your mindset?
- What is one area where you will choose discipline over comfort this week?

Closing Charge

Championships are not won in the spotlight—they are won in the shadows. God is looking for men who will stand out, not fit in. Dare to be different.