

Out of Whack!

Mark Krenz, D.Min.

Did you ever just stop, look around at yourself and your life and wonder, "How did things just get so out of whack?" I remember one time just looking at my schedule and calendar and thinking, "This is insane." I was traveling almost 120 days out of the year and working many evenings and every weekend. Where did my time go? Where did my life go?

Life can quickly get out of whack in different ways. With us living here in the San Tan area for a year now and *still* not having sold our house in Indiana I regularly look at the bills we get from two homes and think, "This is nuts." I move to sunny Arizona and I still get a \$278 gas bill for a house sitting vacant back in single-digit-temperature-land! Then there's family out-of-whackedness. When my little girls, both under the age of two, have a wailing fest and my wife and I are starting to have a meltdown, my friend Chris is fond of announcing in a submarine officer sort of way, "Team Krenz – moral is down. Team Krenz – moral is down." Or how about our bodies? When I get on the scale or look in the mirror and wonder who that guy with love-handles is that's staring back at me I think, "Why can't I eat everything like I used to?" After playing soccer yesterday afternoon I find myself taking ibuprofen to ease the pain in a stiffening knee. I wonder, "Is 34 really that old already?"

At least when my life is a out of whack I can trust that my faith and beliefs are certain and strong. But then I have a cousin and some friends going through some pretty horrific illnesses and I wonder why God isn't handling it like I would if I were him. So I pray some more for them and turn on the TV just in time to hear that allegedly Jesus' body was found. Great, here we go again with the speculations, conspiracy theories, and talking heads.

Good thing we can always turn to Hollywood, the media, and politics for some stability. Yeah right. Talk about whack. I don't know about you, but if I hear anymore about Anna Nicole Smith *anything* I'm moving to Mexico. Speaking of Mexico, do you have to be a multi-millionaire before you can run for president there? How many candidates do we now have entering our presidential race anyway? What's next, an Austrian, body-builder, action-movie superstar holding public office? Alas, we can turn to sports for some sanity. Did you hear? An American soccer franchise will pay 250 million dollars in contracts and endorsements to a European soccer sensation (married to a woman called Posh Spice) to play soccer in a country that doesn't have a clue about the beautiful game.

I guess I'm starting to sound a bit cynical, but I wonder how things got so out of whack? I see people struggling in their marriages, with their families and finances, with their bodies and morals, with addictions and destructive behaviors, and with their time and priorities. Surely there must be some anchor we can drop to stop long enough to correct our course. There must be some compass for our lives that can guide us back into wholeness, peace, and stability. Ah, those words just need to be repeated and read slowly – wholeness... peace... stability. If these are not to be found on MTV, 24-hour cable news, or by watching those that strut the red carpet, if it's not to be found on Capitol Hill, on Wall Street, or in the hallowed halls of academia, where do we turn? Where is the true foundation we can rebuild our lives on?

Maybe it's worth our while to listen to the one who said, "Everyone who hears my words and lives by them is like a wise man who built his house on solid rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not collapse, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears my words and does live by them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a mighty crash." No, that's not Dr. Phil speaking, but Jesus, as quoted from the Bible (Matthew 7:24-27).

Is your life standing or crashing? I want a rock-solid foundation to build my life on, because, as you know, the storms come in many shapes and forms. Jesus came to put our out of whack lives back together again. Maybe we should give him a chance?

Dr. Mark Krenz is the Lead Pastor of **ONE Community Church**, a new church for people who don't like church. Mark speaks every Sunday at ONE which currently meets outdoors at San Tan Flat at 9:30am. Beginning April 1 and Easter Sunday April 8, ONE is moving indoors to the new Mountain Vista K-8 in San Tan Heights (Hunt Hwy and Mountain Vista Blvd – behind the new Sonic). The April message series is called "Out of Whack." You can get more info or listen to Mark's weekly messages online at www.discoverONE.net or email mark@discoverONE.net.