



PACIFIC  
CROSSROADS  
CHURCH

September 10, 2017

# the Cruciform life

FIRST CORINTHIANS

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# Reflections

If we do not give thanks daily for the Christian fellowship in which we have been placed, even where there is no great experience, no discoverable riches, but much weakness, small faith, and difficulty; if on the contrary, we only keep complaining to God that everything is so paltry and petty, so far from what we expected, then we hinder God from letting our fellowship grow according to the measure and riches which are there for us all in Jesus Christ . . . This applies in a special way to the complaints often heard from pastors and zealous members about their congregations . . . Christian community is not an ideal which we must realize; it is rather a reality created by God in Christ in which we may participate.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*

The disturbed state of the Christians at Corinth . . . the range of their problems (rival 'theologians,' factions, problematic sexual practices) makes the correspondence exceptionally instructive for troubled Christians and churches of our times. Attempts to live according to the gospel in the multiethnic and crosscultural society at Corinth raised issues still encountered in multiethnic, multiracial, and crosscultural societies today . . . For those studying Paul seriously for the first time, if limitations mean that only one of the thirteen letters can be examined in depth, I Cor may well be the most rewarding.

- Raymond E. Brown, *An Introduction to the New Testament*

In order to form a Christian community identity within a pluralistic pagan world, Paul repeatedly calls his readers to a 'conversion of the imagination.' He invites them to see the world in dramatically new ways, in light of values shaped by the Christian story.

- Richard B. Hays, *First Corinthians*

'Vase of Flowers' by Jan van Huysum, 1722; Oil on panel  
'Cruciform' logo by Jesse Wu

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# Scripture

1 Corinthians 1:1-17

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— <sup>6</sup> even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup> who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

<sup>10</sup> I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup> For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." <sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

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# Sermon

*the Cruciform life: God's Wisdom and Human Flourishing*

Rankin Wilbourne

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## Events & News

### **Community Group Fair, Today After All Three Services**

We're kicking off the Fall with a party! Join us for food and festivities today after all 3 services. And if you're looking for connection, Community Group Coaches can help place you in a community group near your home or workplace.

### **Orphan Care: All In, September 24**

Over four Sundays, take a deep dive into “why” and “how” to get involved with foster care children. This class draws from scripture-based curriculum that is focused on the need for homes, mentors and volunteers. SAMOHI 11 AM, St. John's 3:30 PM.

### **Membership Seminar, September 30**

If you are ready to call PCC your church home, come hear what the bible teaches us about membership and what it means to be a member of PCC. Breakfast provided.

*View and sign up for all events on our mobile app, on our website [PacificCrossroads.org/Events](http://PacificCrossroads.org/Events), or speak with someone at the 'New Here?' tent.*

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## Ministry Resources

### **Pastoral Care**

Our pastoral care team is here to care for you if you are in a difficult place. Email [pastoralcare@pacificcrossroads.org](mailto:pastoralcare@pacificcrossroads.org) or call our office at 310.551.0081.

### **Celebrate Recovery**

Join together weekly with others to celebrate God's healing power in our lives. Visit [PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery](http://PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery).