



PACIFIC
CROSSROADS
CHURCH

October 15, 2017

the Cruciform life

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Reflections

The glory of the gospel is that when the Church is absolutely different from the world, she invariably attracts it. It is then that the world is made to listen to her message, though it may hate it at first. That is how revival comes. That must also be true of us as individuals. It should not be our ambition to be as much like everybody else as we can, though we happen to be Christian, but rather to be as different from everybody who is not a Christian as we can possibly be. Our ambition should be to be like Christ; the more like Him the better. And the more like Him we become, the more we shall be unlike everybody who is not a Christian.

- Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

If strict discipline were maintained in the church it would in all probability be one of the most powerful means of conviction and conversion towards those who are without.

- Jonathan Edwards

I'd say that if social life can get us into trouble, social life can get us out. After all, think of how you really persuade people. Do you do it by writing thoughtful essays that carefully marshal facts? That works some of the time. But the real way to persuade people is to create an attractive community that people want to join . . . create groups where it's cool to be reasonable. That means [people] take evidence seriously; that means they can enter into another's mind-set. It means they treat debate as a learning exercise and not just as a means to victory. How many public institutions celebrate these virtues? The U.S. Senate? Most TV talk shows? Even the universities?

- David Brooks, *The Art of Thinking Well* (New York Times)

'Vase of Flowers' by Jan van Huysum, 1722; Oil on panel

'Cruciform' logo by Jesse Wu

Scripture

1 Corinthians 5

¹ It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. ² And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

³ For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who did such a thing. ⁴ When you are assembled in the name of the Lord Jesus and my spirit is present, with the power of our Lord Jesus, ⁵ you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

⁶ Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?

⁷ Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸ Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

⁹ I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— ¹⁰ not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. ¹¹ But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one. ¹² For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? ¹³ God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”

Sermon

the Cruciform life: Cruciform Faith in the Public Square

Rankin Wilbourne

Events & News

The Benedict Option: A Strategy for Faithful Politics, October 21

Senior pastor Rankin Willbourne joins author Rod Dreher in a conversation about Christian life and political engagement. Space is limited. RSVP on the PCC app or website.

Community Group New Leader Training, October 28

Do you feel like it's time to consider leading or hosting a Community Group? Is God calling you to serve your local community? If so, join us for breakfast and learn what leading or hosting requires.

Pre-Marriage Seminar, November 11

If you are engaged, or in a serious dating relationship and contemplating if he or she is the one, this seminar will offer practical information on how to build a healthy marriage. Topics include the Biblical institution of marriage, communication, conflict resolution, sex, and finances.

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

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 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.