



PACIFIC
CROSSROADS
CHURCH

November 12, 2017

the Cruciform life

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Reflections

Anxiety may be compared with dizziness. He whose eye happens to look down into the yawning abyss becomes dizzy. But what is the reason for this? It is just as much in his own eyes as in the abyss . . . Hence, anxiety is the dizziness of freedom.

- Soren Kierkegaard, *The Concept of Anxiety*

Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.

- George Bernard Shaw

Nothing is more wonderful than the art of being free, but nothing is harder to learn how to use than freedom.

- Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*

It seemed to me that if we were going to be elevating freedom to the defining principle of what we're about as a culture and a nation, we ought to take a careful look at what freedom in practice brings. The weird thing about the freedom of Freedom is that what it doesn't bring is happiness.

- Jonathan Franzen on his novel, *Freedom*

Sermon

the Cruciform life: Cruciform Freedom

Rankin Wilbourne

Scripture

1 Corinthians 8, 9:19-23

¹ Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. ² If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³ But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

⁴ Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵ For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth -- as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"— ⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. ⁷ However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸ Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹ But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? ¹¹ And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹² Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³ Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Events & News

Church-Wide Survey, Final Day

Today is the final day to complete a survey. Your feedback will help our staff and leaders develop long-term strategies. You can complete the survey outside after each service.

Boxes of Love, Return and Delivery

Boxes of Love are due today. If you haven't dropped off your box, or if you would like to purchase items for an additional box, we'll collect them at SAMOHI until 1 PM or St. Johns until 7 PM.

We also want to encourage you to participate in delivering boxes to LA families next Saturday and Sunday. Opportunities are listed on the PCC app and website.

Fall Festival, November 19

Carnival games, food trucks, and tons of fun for everyone after each service on Sunday, November 19. This is a great opportunity to invite a guest and hang out with our church family.

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.