



PACIFIC  
CROSSROADS  
CHURCH

January 28, 2018

# the Cruciform life

FIRST CORINTHIANS

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## Reflections

Love means love  
of the thing sung, not of the song or the singing.  
These poems, she said . . .  
                                You are, he said,  
beautiful.  
                                That is not love, she said rightly.

- Robert Bringhurst, *These Poems, She Said*

When man encounters the love of God in Christ, not only does he experience what genuine love is, but he is also confronted with the undeniable fact, that he, a selfish sinner, does not himself possess true love . . . Man cannot come to a recognition of this sign without a radical conversion— a conversion not only of heart, which must in the face of this love confess that it has failed to love until now, but also a conversion of thought, which must relearn what love after all really is.

- Hans Urs von Balthasar, *Love Alone is Credible*

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## Sermon

*Cruciform Love: Love is . . .*  
Rankin Wilbourne

# Scripture

1 Corinthians 12:31b-13

<sup>31</sup> And I will show you a still more excellent way.

<sup>1</sup> If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.


<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup> Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.


<sup>13</sup> So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

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

*'Cruciform' logo by Jesse Wu*

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## Events & News

### **Orphan Care: All In, February 11**

Take a deep dive into 'why' and 'how' to get involved with children in the foster care system. This four-week class draws from scripture-based curriculum that is focused on the need for homes, mentors, and volunteers. 9:00 AM SAMOHI or 3:30 PM St. John's.

### **IF: Gathering for Women, February 9, 10**

IF: West Los Angeles is a gathering of women united in Christ across generations, denominations, and backgrounds, seeking to live out their calling for the glory of God and the good of others.

We hope you can join us for this two-day gathering, which will include live worship, live-stream content from the IF: Gathering in Austin, TX, discussion sessions, refreshments, gifts, and lunch on Saturday. Scholarships available. More info on the PCC App and website.

*View and sign up for all events on our mobile app, on our website, [PacificCrossroads.org/Events](https://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](https://PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery).