



PACIFIC
CROSSROADS
CHURCH

November 5, 2017

the Cruciform life

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Reflections

Celibacy is the only known sexual perversion.

- Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Sometimes the church talks about singleness as if it were similar to being chosen for Hufflepuff by the Magic Sorting Hat in Harry Potter. The good news is that you still are at Hogwarts, but the bad news is that pretty much everyone else there will avoid you and make it clear they feel sad for you and would never, ever want to be you.

- Rev. Sammy Rhodes, This is Awkward

Single Christians living in purity and community are billboards for the sufficiency of Jesus.

- Peter Hubbard

Sermon

the Cruciform life: The Blessing of Singleness

Matthew Trexler

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

'Cruciform' logo by Jesse Wu

Scripture

1 Corinthians 7:7-9, 17-28, 32-35

⁷ I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another. ⁸ To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. ⁹ But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

¹⁷ Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches. ¹⁸ Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. ¹⁹ For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God. ²⁰ Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called. ²¹ Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.) ²² For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. ²³ You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men. ²⁴ So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God. ²⁵ Now concerning the betrothed, I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. ²⁶ I think that in view of the present distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. ²⁷ Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. ²⁸ But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that.

³² I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³ But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴ and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. ³⁵ I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

Events & News

Church-Wide Survey

Continuing today, PCC is conducting a church-wide survey. Your feedback will help our staff and leaders develop long-term strategies to better serve our congregation and Los Angeles. The survey can be completed online or via paper. More info right outside after each service.

Boxes of Love, Pick Up a Box Today After the Service

1.4 million Angelinos do not know where their next meal will come from. Boxes of Love provides temporary relief and connects food-insecure families to local ministries and churches. Pick up a box (or two) today after each service, fill it up, and bring it back for delivery next Sunday, Nov 12.

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.