

Small Group Guide

THE CROSS AND CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

The Church at Brook Hills

Dr. David Platt

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1 Corinthians 1

MAIN TRUTH

Message Outline

THE CROSS AND CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

1 Corinthians 1

Why 1 Corinthians?

- As we grow...
 - We want to care for every single member of a relatively large church.
- As we go...
 - We want to be faithful to God's Word as God's people in a rapidly shifting culture.

The Church...

A Community Formed By The Cross

The cross is what brings us together as community; community of believers in, community of followers of Jesus Christ READ 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 24

- The cross humbles us. **The words – called, chose**
 - The contrast... (v. 11)
 - To those who are perishing, the cross seems absurd.
 - To those who are being saved, the cross evokes awe.
 - The cause... (v. 26)
 - Not the specific quality of those who are called.
 - Only the sovereign mercy of the One who calls.
 - The caution... (v. 1, 2)
 - Recognize the initiative of God.
 - Remember the responsibility of man.
 - The conclusion... (v. 28 – 31)
 - We don't revel in the wisdom or the ways of this world.
 - We only revel in the grace and the glory of our God.
- The cross satisfies us. (v. 4 – 9) **The cross is where we're to find our satisfaction, not the church.**
 - Because of the cross, all of our guilt is gone.
 - Because of the cross, all of God's gifts are ours.
- The cross unifies us. (v. 10 – 13) **The ground is level at the foot of the cross.**
 - The cross erases any reason for division among us.
 - The cross exalts the only One who died for us.
- The cross transforms us. **The words – in Christ, in Him (v. 31)**
 - Christ is our righteousness: He has saved us from sin's penalty.
 - Christ is our sanctification: He is saving us from sin's power.
 - Christ is our redemption: He will save us from sin's presence.
- The cross compels us. (v. 17, 21 – 23)
 - We want to reflect the holiness of God. (Where?)
 - We want to proclaim the hope of the gospel. (Where?)
- The cross assures us.
 - The Christ who came to die on a cross is the Christ who's coming to usher in a kingdom.
 - The church is not living for our best life now; the church is living for our best life later. – in eternity