

# Christ and Him Crucified

## (1) The Centrality of the Cross



### Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be radically *cross-centered* and become more and more *cross-cultured*.



### Message Map

1. **The Centrality of the Cross**
2. The Conquest of the Cross
3. The Calling of the Cross
4. The Community of the Cross



### Key Text

1 Corinthians 1:17-2:2

→ “For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified” (2:2).



### Big Idea

The cross of Christ is central in the storyline of Scripture because it is central in God’s plan of redemption. Therefore, it was central in Paul’s preaching and life, as it must also be in ours.

## (1) The Centrality of the Cross in the Storyline of Scripture

Everything in the Old Testament looks forward to the cross and everything in the New Testament looks backward to the cross.

- 1 Cor 10:1-4

## (2) The Centrality of the Cross in the Plan of Redemption

At deepest root, humanity’s problem is a God-impeaching, man-enthroning pride. This is the *ancient antithesis*—man’s exalting of himself over and against God rather than humbling himself under and walking with Him. As a result, the current state of affairs is both fallen and flipped. Man’s reach for wisdom and power over and against God, capsizes the entire creation!

If God is going to save us, He must take on both the fall and the flip, which He did at the cross!

- Gen 3:1-8

## (3) The Centrality of the Cross in Paul’s Preaching & Life

God has so designed the cross that it would be both *diagnosis* and *cure* of man’s deepest problem. The preaching of the cross brings us face to face with both our *problem* and its *solution*!



### Critical Action

Boast only in the Lord of the cross (cf. Gal 6:14)!



### Reflection Questions

- Where have you seen ripples of the cross of Christ in the Old Testament?
- Read 2 Cor 11:3. How do you see Satan tempting you like he tempted Adam and Eve?
- What would it look like to boast only in the cross as you relate with God, the church, family, coworkers, neighbors, etc.