

CHRIST AND THE CROSS

THE DECISION THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING

Sermon Questions

1. Who wrote nearly half of the New Testament? _____
2. "Christ and him crucified" refers to preaching on the person and cross-work of Jesus. (True/False)
3. "Christ and him crucified" is also shorthand for the _____.
4. The message of Christ and him crucified is important for every preacher, church, and your own _____
5. _____'s decision to preach Christ and him crucified was a informed and settled choice.
6. Rather than the world's message and method, we should be confident in _____'s message and method.
7. List the three results of preaching Christ and him crucified: (you'll need to return to finish this question)
 - i. A display of God's _____
 - ii. A testament to God's _____
 - iii. Fuel for our _____
8. The world says the gospel is weakness. Hughes demonstrated its power to _____.
9. The world says the gospel is foolish. They don't understand our sin and God's _____.
10. Give one example of how we "boast in the Lord." _____
11. What is at the center of your life? _____

Discussion Questions

1. When you honestly examine your life—your hopes, fears, decisions, and daily priorities—what currently occupies the center? In what specific ways does “Christ and him crucified” need to reclaim that place?
2. Paul “decided” (determined) to know nothing except Jesus Christ and him crucified. Have you ever consciously made that same decision for your own life, marriage, or home? What competing centers (success, comfort, family approval, politics, etc.) most often pull you away from it?
3. Where do you feel the strongest pressure to soften, repackage, or avoid parts of the gospel (sin, wrath, the bloody cross, exclusivity) so that it feels more acceptable to our culture? How does Paul’s resolve in 1 Corinthians 2:2 challenge that temptation?
4. The sermon showed that keeping Christ and the cross at the center produces God’s power to transform, true wisdom, and a people who boast only in the Lord. Which of these three results do you most need to see afresh in your life right now, and what practical step can you take this week to keep the cross central so that result can grow?
5. What was your most significant take-away from this passage and sermon?

Discussion Questions for Children

1. Paul said the most important thing he wanted everyone to know was Jesus and what he did on the cross. What do you think is the most important thing in your life right now? How can you make Jesus and the cross the most important thing instead?
2. Paul *decided* that Jesus and the cross would always be at the center of everything he did. Have you ever decided that Jesus is the most important person in your life? What is one way you can show that this week (at home, at church, or with your friends)?