

“YOU Are Not Alone” - Focus on Christ
Pastor Harlyn
June 4, 2023 – 180 Church
1 Corinthians 1:10-18 (excerpts)

1 Corinthians 1:10 “I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.”

1 Corinthians 1:12 “What I mean is this: One of you says, “I follow Paul”; another, “I follow Apollos”; another, “I follow Cephas”; still another, “I follow Christ.”

1 Corinthians 1:13 “Is Christ divided?...“

1 Corinthians 1:17 “For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. ¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”

1 Corinthians 2:2 “I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”

Ephesians 4:3 “Maintain that unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

2 Corinthians 2:11 “Don’t be ignorant concerning the schemes, (the wiles) of the devil!”

“The cross reminds us that we’re fighting FROM a place of victory, not FOR victory.”

-Pastor Harlyn

LOOK IN:

1. Paul states in 1 Cor. 1:17 that Christ sent him to preach the gospel, not with fancy words and eloquent speech, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. When you hear these words, what does the power of the Cross mean to you?
2. For some, the message of the Cross was confusing and pure foolishness (such as the Greek Sophists), for others it was disappointing and underwhelming (such as the Jews) and for others it was a message of comfort. When you consider how God chose to save this world, how do you understand this message of the Cross?
3. Consider recent protests in American cities. Compare this to what we know about Jesus’ defense of his rights when he was on trial (see Mark 15:3-5). How does Jesus’ example speak to you?
4. Reflect on 1 John 3:16. How is Jesus calling us to act toward our brothers and sisters, our neighbors, or coworkers, our friends and even our enemies? How do you feel about that?