

## The One Thing

**1 Corinthians 2:1.** And I, brethren, when I came unto you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. **2** For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. **3** And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. **4** And my speech and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: **5** that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. 1 Cor 2:1-5 (ASV)

### 1. The Corinthian Church

- a. A church divided
- b. A church with contentions about who was “under” Apollos’ or Paul’s teaching.

### 2. Paul’s one thing

- a. Not to know anything among you
- b. Only Christ and him crucified

### 3. The One thing

- a. The most important part of Paul’s preaching
- b. The one thing that is central to the gospel
- c. In which a believer can hope
- d. The one thing that is the message of the church

#### Christ Alone

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
’Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

### 4. The Cross of Christ

- a. Our sin debt paid

**Isaiah 53:4.** Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. **5** But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with

his stripes we are healed. **6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and Jehovah hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:4-6 (ASV)

b. The cross is the call of the disciple

**Matthew 16:24.** Then said Jesus unto his disciples, **If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. **25** For whosoever would save his life shall lose it: and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake shall find it.** Matt 16:24-25 (ASV)

c. Our new life is found

**Galatians 2:20.** I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

d. Where we find freedom

**Galatians 6:14.** But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

e. The message of God's love for us

**John 3:16.** **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life. **17** For God sent not the Son into the world to judge the world; but that the world should be saved through him.** John 3:16-17 (ASV)

## 5. The preaching of the cross

- a. Has become outdated
- b. Offensive to some

**1 Corinthians 1:23.** But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;