



Sunday, January 29, 2012

Reflections

What induces one man to use false weights, another to set his house on fire after having insured it for more than its value, while three-fourths of our upper classes indulge in legalized fraud... what gives rise to this? It is not real want—for their existence is by no means precarious...but they are urged on day and night by a terrible impatience at seeing their wealth pile up so slowly, and by an equally terrible longing and love for these heaps of gold.... What once was done “for the love of God” is now done for the love of money, i.e., for the love of that which at present affords us the highest feeling of power and a good conscience.

Friedrich Nietzsche, The Dawn of Day

Tolstoy said, “The antagonism between life and conscience may be removed either by a change of life or by a change of conscience.” Many of us have elected to adjust our consciences rather than our lives.

Randy Alcorn, Money, Possessions, and Eternity

God is not glorified when we keep for ourselves (no matter how thankfully) what we ought to be using to alleviate the misery of unevangelized, uneducated, unmedicated, and unfed millions. The evidence that many professing Christians have been deceived by this doctrine is how little they give and how much they own. God has prospered them. And by almost an irresistible law of consumer culture (baptized by a doctrine of health, wealth, and prosperity) they have bought bigger (and more) houses, newer (and more) cars, fancier (and more) clothes...and all manner of trinkets and gadgets and containers and devices and equipment to make life more fun.... God increases our yield, so that by giving we can prove our yield is not our god.... God prospers a business so that 17,000 unreached peoples can be reached with the gospel. He prospers the business so that 12 percent of the world's population can move a step back from the precipice of starvation.

John Piper, Desiring God

Cover art by John Mason

God Calls Us to Worship

Call to Worship – from Psalm 89

Leader: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known
Your faithfulness to all generations.

All: The heavens are Yours;
the earth also is Yours;
the world and all that is in it.
Blessed be the LORD forever!

Scripture Reading – Proverbs 30:7-9

Two things I ask of You;
deny them not to me before I die:
Remove far from me falsehood and lying;
give me neither poverty nor riches;
Feed me with the food that is needful for me,
lest I be full and deny You
and say, “Who is the LORD?”
or lest I be poor and steal
and profane the name of my God.

God and Money – *Erin and Kersten Barr*

Offerings of the People – Sonata in C by Mozart

The offering is a way for Christians to support the mission and ministry of the church. Christians offer a sacrificial portion of their resources—time, talents, possessions—as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God’s grace.

If you are a guest we are glad you are here today. Please feel no obligation to give.

If you are new to Pacific Crossroads, or began attending in the last six months, please join us TODAY after the 9:00 am service for a Newcomers’ Brunch in the cafeteria (follow the signs). This will be an opportunity for you to meet some of the pastors and leaders in our church, as well as learn more about Crossroads and our ministries.

God Speaks to Us

Scripture

Luke 19:1 He entered Jericho and was passing through. ²And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. ⁴So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was about to pass that way. ⁵And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” ⁶So he hurried and came down and received Him joyfully. ⁷And when they saw it, they all grumbled, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.” ⁸And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.” ⁹And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Luke 12:15 Then He said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

Sermon

The Power of Money
Rankin Wilbourne

God Sends Us Out

Lord's Supper (9:00 am only)

Why do we come forward together?

Because we are all members of one body in Jesus Christ. In coming forward for the Supper together, we see and participate in the visible display of this truth.

Can someone pray for me?

Yes! People who desire to pray with and for you will be standing in the front of the auditorium after the service. All prayer requests will remain confidential. Also, if you would like to learn more about Jesus, they're available to talk with you.

What if I'm not a Christian?

We are glad you're here. Consider using this time to reflect on your experience today. If you're looking for God, He is near. Take some time to pray to Him. Use your own words or one of the prayers printed below.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth. Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth and the life. Please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of who You are. Give me an understanding of You that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life You promise.

Prayer for Belief. Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through You I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. Thank You for paying my debt on the cross and offering me complete forgiveness. Knowing that You have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive You as my Savior and Lord.

God Sends Us Out – Marshall Brown

Want prayer? Our prayer team is available to pray with you after the service at the front of the auditorium. All requests are kept confidential.

Welcome Center. If you would like more information about our church, please visit the Welcome Center in the refreshments area.

Ministry Contacts. If you have a question or a need, we are here to serve you. To contact a pastor, discuss financial or mercy needs, find a community group, and for other information, please visit:
www.PacificCrossroads.org/Ministries



Our Vision

Changed Lives by God's Power
Renewing Los Angeles for Christ's Fame

Our Values

Gospel. The gospel is the good news of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ: it is expansive and animates everything we do.

Community. The gospel gives birth to a new community of sincere humility, indiscriminate love, and deep concern for both spiritual and material needs.

Discipleship. We desire to see lives changed by the gospel of grace so that the people of God, grounded in the Word of God, are equipped for the ministry of God.

Mission. The gospel defines our identity and our mission as one: we are witnesses to the gospel of God, declaring with our words and our lives that Jesus is Lord.

Sunday Worship

Westside: 9:00 am, 11:00 am

John Adams Middle School
2425 16th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90405

Downtown: 5:00 pm

St. John's Episcopal Cathedral
514 W Adams Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90007

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