



**"No Cross,
No Crown"**

The Cross and Crown

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While Peter was staying with Simon the Tanner, God taught him a radical lesson: The Good News was intended not just for Israelites, but for Gentiles as well. This seems obvious to us, as Gentiles, who have lived for generations with the knowledge of God's will for us, but, up until that time, the Israelites thought that they alone were set apart for salvation. Gentiles were people with whom an upstanding Jew wouldn't even share a meal!

When God, by a promise to Abraham, set apart his offspring (who were to become the Israelites) as his chosen people, he wasn't setting them apart into an exclusive club, but, rather, to an important mission. They were to be the messengers through whom all the world would be saved: "Through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed." (Genesis 22:18) Jesus commissioned his disciples with a similar call: To go throughout all the world and bless everyone with the Gospel. Today, the privilege of sharing God's blessing the world falls on us.

God, who is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (II Peter 3:9), has made us his ambassadors, as though he were making his appeal through us! (II Corinthians 5:20) The appeal is not just to people like us, people whom we feel comfortable associating with, or people who share our political views and general set of values. As radical as it may sound, the appeal is to everyone!



The Great Commission sounds pretty straightforward, doesn't it? And, yet, amazingly, when Jesus told his disciples to go throughout the world and preach the good news to every living creature, their ears heard "every living *Jewish* creature." When we consider God's call, we must be not to let it be diluted by our own biases.

God's invitation is for everyone. If it weren't, you and I wouldn't stand a chance. Let's ask God to open our eyes to the whole harvest field, to open our ears to the cry of his heart, and to open our hearts to all who are lost.

For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life.

(John 6:40)

Thanks for Praying!

We are so grateful for all that God is doing among us in response to your prayers! This is going to be a pivotal summer. Please join us in praying

- for the moms and young children who have begun fellowshipping with us,
- for our intern, Jennifer, a Temple student who's joining us for the summer, and
- for financial provision to sustain our ministries.







Our monthly birthday celebration, following Sunday's service

We're praying with you!

If you're on our mailing list*, you're on our prayer list! If there's anything specific that we can join you in praying about, please let us know.

We love hearing from you! Please do keep in touch!

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* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we understand! Just call or drop us a note, and we'll remove you. (We'll still keep you on our prayer list!)

If you'd rather receive this letter via e-mail, please let us know!

Did you know?

There are more than 7,000 languages actively spoken in the world today. Papua New Guinea, with a population only slightly higher than New York City's, accounts for 840 of those languages – which works out to more than 10% of them!

“There before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.”

(Revelation 7:9)

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<https://HighwayTabernacle.org> ♦ <https://ResLife.AG> ♦ Sunday services at Noon: <https://ResLife.stream>

