

## October 11, 2020

### Weekly Newsletter

#### The Preacher's Post – *Darin Kennedy*

“To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ...”

—1 Corinthians 1:2

I am surprised at how Paul addresses the Corinthians at the beginning of his letter. They have problems with division, arrogance, incest, spiritual gifts, marriage, worship, and public fights in the courts. Still, Paul calls them “sanctified” and “his holy people.” I would have expected Paul to blast them from the start as blatantly wicked sinners, but he addresses them as people who know Christ and have been saved by Christ and are called to be holy. Why would he protect them from the start and affirm what seems to be their biggest problem—they think they can do no wrong? It is a lesson on how we ought to approach one another, most especially when we need to confront one another and hold one another accountable. At its basic level, we need to see Jesus in one another.

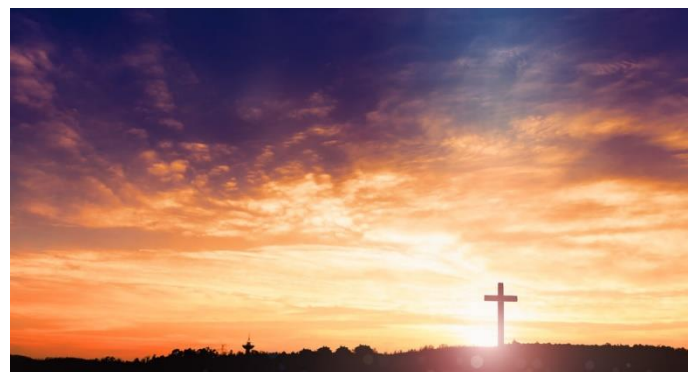
Many times, it is hard to see Jesus in other people. I find it easier to see their faults and mistakes or their accomplishments and successes. I feel like Samuel standing before Jesse's sons trying to spot the new king of Israel, being impressed by their height and build and not able to see what God sees. The Corinthians' qualities seem very easy to see and condemn. The public of Corinth has even seen it, much to the church's embarrassment, but Paul sees something working underneath the surface that must be accessed for any real change to happen. They have the sanctifying work of Jesus in their lives, and if they access that, they can be transformed into the spitting image of Christ—Christ crucified.

More than that, Paul has an accurate picture of Jesus. If you are looking for a savior who only picks the best and the brightest, who only chooses the best behaved, you will miss

Jesus. Jesus has always chosen the ignorant, poor, sick, and sinful to do the greatest work humanity has ever known: establishing the most powerful kingdom the world has ever seen. That is not only who they are out in the world, but that is also who we are, who the Corinthians are—the ignorant, poor, sick, and sinful—perfect for Jesus.

If I know what is available to me and if I know what Jesus is prepared to do with me, I now know what I can become. In all our pettiness, stubbornness, weakness, competitive nature, and sin, God can make us the united body of Christ, the royal priesthood of Christ, the display of the grace of Christ, and the image of the crucified Christ. God has a long way to go with us, but He is willing to go the distance. If we will be inspired by such a patient God and such a grandiose plan for our lives, we will more readily accept correction, like what Paul gives the Corinthians, because our greatest desire is to become as holy as He so graciously sees us.

May we have better eyes to see others and to see ourselves as full of Christ just waiting to be more fully revealed in us and through us.



## Prayer Requests

**Samantha Pollard's** aunt Janet (the mother of her cousin, Alison, who just passed away) – has a brain tumor that's inoperable. Hospice has been called into the home. **Mitch and Peggy Rush's** granddaughter (a family from East Independence church) – is suffering from a severe head injury. She is 6 years old. She was in a car accident. She is unconscious. But seems to be making small improvements, **Stormy Cook's** brother (Ralph) – has been put on a liver transplant list, **Hannah Guntert's** cousin (Grant Funderburk) – is 7 years old and will be traveling from Arkansas to Ohio twice next month for a serious colon operation, **Mary Ellen Myers's** friend (Matt) – has COVID and is in the hospital with complications, **Frank Stewart's** daughter in law (Sherry) – **UPDATE:** Sherry passed away this week at the age of 64 after some serious health complications and malnutrition. Funeral will be next week, **Dave and Susan Foster's** daughter (Sara) – had surgery this week. Surgery went well, **Debbie Peerson's** niece – died tragically, **Jurhee Bench** – has been in and out of being quarantined to her room because of cases popping up at her facility. Please continue to pray for her during this difficult time, **Buddy and Sharon Self's** daughter (Lisa Self) – has a blood clot and fluid in her lungs. She is slowly regaining her strength, **Shirley Simmons** – had open heart surgery. **UPDATE:** Surgery went well. She is home and has about a 6-week recovery ahead of her. She is requesting no visitors at this time, **Kelly Seuferling** – had surgery this week. Surgery went well., **Bonnie Hamby** – had cataract surgery, **Dave Nash** – seems to be getting a bit stronger, **Devastation of Hurricanes and Bill and Marlene** as they work with Disaster Relief, **Lillie Ramage** – has stage 4 pancreatic cancer, **Cathy Eldridge** – **UPDATE:** She continues to have some health issues. She has a heart test on October 12. Her specific prayer request is for a successful procedure with no complications and hopefully heart valve surgery can wait a while, **Linda Hyde's** mother (Willa Dean Haley) – is currently in hospice care, **Marina Belekonnny** – from Ukraine has Hodgkin's lymphoma, **Flora Swartz's** friend (Joanie Green) – is still taking chemo pills, **Ben Church's** brother (David Church) – **UPDATE:** He is now in hospice care at Ben's niece's house in Golden City, Mo, **Andy Hester, Joel Morehead, Bruce Keeton, Will Kreisel, Lena Bramlett**

## Service Opportunities:

### Harvesters

If anyone is interested in working as a volunteer at Harvesters, please contact Allie Keller. A group of them go every Tuesday and work from 10:30-12:30 at their main facility in KC. They meet at the church at 10 am. Long pants, closed toed shoes and masks are required. They need more volunteers so please consider this service opportunity.

### 2020 Youth Christmas Project

It is time to start thinking about our annual Youth Christmas Project. This year we will be adopting 10 underprivileged kids and buying them Christmas Presents. If you are interested in donating money to buy presents for these kids add "Youth Christmas Project" to the note section of your offering

### Time Change:

Donna Wealand's Ladies' group that meets on Tuesday mornings has changed their meeting time to 9:30AM. If you are interested in attending this Bible study, please note this time change.

### Birthdays: October 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>

Michael Kennedy – 11<sup>th</sup>

Reagan Parker – 14<sup>th</sup>

Sydney Kerley – 15<sup>th</sup>

Caroline Endicott – 16<sup>th</sup>

Jack Hudkins – 17<sup>th</sup>



Reagan Parker is turning 16!!!

Sydney Kerley is turning 21!!!

cross silhouette in grass over sunset or sunrise sky - Wang Shuang © [123rf.com](http://123rf.com)  
children read a bible on the bed - [Volodimir Kalina](http://Volodimir_Kalina) © [123rf.com](http://123rf.com)  
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