Keep Me Near the Cross

We sing, "Jesus keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain..." As we travel through life, it is important to stay centered around that which will get us to heaven. For the Christian, that center is the cross. The cross in the New Testament is a symbol of self-less sacrifice and service and the cross of Christ is what we must stay near at all times. Let us consider some times in life when it is important to "keep me near the cross". Lord...

"Keep me near the cross" when I am tempted to live selfishly. When I bear my cross daily I am self-less (Luke 9:23; 14:27). "Keep me near the cross" when I tempted to divide and follow man. When I follow the cross I will be united in Christ and with other Christians (1 Corinthians 1:13). "Keep me near the cross" when I am tempted to preach another gospel. When I preach the cross of Christ I preach the New Testament gospel only (I Corinthians 1:17-18, 23; 2:2). "Keep me near the cross" when I am tempted to forget the Lord's death. When I remember the cross I remember the Lord's great sacrifice for me (I Corinthians II:20-34).

"Keep me near the cross" when I am tempted to follow false teaching (Galatians 3:1), to avoid persecution (Galatians 5:11; 6:12), to boast (Galatians 6:4), and to fall away from Christ (Hebrews 6:6; 10:29).

Lord, keep me near the cross so I can be near you in heaven. - Chris Reeves

Sentence Sermons

- Love that does not understand the language of sacrifice is not love.
- Many young people today are introduced to the ages of the rocks without ever being introduced to the Rock of Ages.
- God puts the church in the world, but it is Satan who puts the world in the church.
- The Lord does not need "talented" Christians, he needs consecrated ones.

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Assembly Times Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm Wednesday: 7 pm

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Friend, what do you really need in life? Do you need a new car, a new job, or a new house? Do you need an education or someone to marry? What is your greatest need now?

The apostle Paul wrote: "And my God shall supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). Note that Paul wrote that God would supply our every need and that he would do it "in Christ Jesus". Every important need that we have in life is supplied by Jesus Christ. Do you know him and obey him? Jesus meets our every need.

We know that God has always supplied mankind's needs. Look back at the beginning of time in Genesis I-4 and you will see that God supplied every need of Adam and Eve and he continues to do so even today. God supplied their physical needs be giving them food, shelter, and clothing. God supplied their emotional and mental needs by giving them a mission to fulfill and a work to do in the garden.

God supplied their social needs by making them male and female, giving them marriage and the home where social beings can communicate with each other. God supplied their spiritual needs by communicating with them personally, giving them a law to live by, and showing them how to worship.

When you turn to the New Testament in the book of John, you find that Jesus supplied mankind's needs as well. In John 2:1-12, there was a need and Jesus met that need when he turned water into wine. There was a miracle (sign) performed that pointed to Jesus' power and glory and there was a positive response of belief from the audience.

In John 4:46-54, there was a need and Jesus met that need when he healed the nobleman's son. There was a miracle (sign) performed that pointed to Jesus' power and glory and there was a positive response of belief from the audience. In John 6:1-14, there was a need and Jesus met that need when he fed the 5,000. There was a miracle (sign) performed that pointed to Jesus' power and glory and there was a positive response of belief from the audience. Jesus met every need of those around him.

Our needs today are met by Jesus Christ. Our physical needs are met through his providence. He upholds all

things in the physical world by his power (Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3). Our emotional needs are met through his intercession. Christians can pray through him to God and be heard (Hebrews 2:18; 4:14-16). Our social needs are met through his body, the church. Christians in the church care for one another (I Corinthians 12:21). Our spiritual needs are met through his sacrifice. Jesus died on the cross for our sins (Mark 2:17; Revelation 3:17). Jesus not only meets man's basic needs, but he also meets man's greatest need, salvation from sin!

The "signs" recorded in the book of John pointed to Jesus' power (divinity) over nature, power over time, and power to provide needs. Jesus' miracles ("signs") caused people to believe in him. This is the greatest need of all, belief in Jesus (John 2:23; 6:30; 12:37; 20:30-31). Will you believe in Jesus today?

Will you let Jesus meet your needs today? When you believe and obey Jesus, God will supply "every need of yours" in Jesus Christ. Jesus is waiting to help you with your needs. Let him do it. - Chris Reeves