

## Pastoral Notes

'Near the Cross' John 19:23-27.

If you think about it, **who or what you get closest to, affects you the most.** If you get close to water you get wet, get close to fire you get burned, get close to germs, you get sick. But **when you get close to Jesus and near the cross, you get saved.**

The symbol of Christianity, for most people, is the cross. It, however, is not a symbol of royalty and riches, but is a symbol of suffering and shame. We can identify with such a symbol because we all have had personal

shame. The cross can bear the burden of injurious insults, lamentable lies and crushing catastrophes. It can remove the pain of rejection and the shame of addiction. **The cross is where you find the plan of God, power of God and love of God.**

When you get near the cross, expect enemies to expose themselves and talk about you. Why? Because Satan knows that the cross is your covering. But there is much good to come from being near the cross. You will also find who your true friends are. Those who are happy for

### Key Sermonic Points

1. *Near the Cross Enemies are Exposed*
2. *Near the Cross Friends are Affirmed*
3. *Near the Cross God reveals himself*

experience with some form of suffering and shame in our lives.

**Near the cross means that you are connected to the source of your salvation through prayer, meditation and striving to live a life in accordance with the teaching of our Lord Jesus.**

Like Jesus, we are to carry our own cross daily by denying ourselves of the lusts and prideful desires that are temporal and not spiritual. By keeping your mind and heart near to Jesus, you are staying near the cross.

Near the cross, there is healing from sickness and disease and there is freedom from sin and

you and proud of you, who pray for and with you because they know **when you are near the cross, you are closer to God and will be able to see more clearly as God reveals himself to you.**

Visit our website, or get a CD, for more depth on this teaching.

Stay Blessed,  
Pastor Robbie

## Nuggets:

- “Nothing fails but a try. The worse people can do is say no” - William Bobby Robinson
- “Ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened” - Matt 7:7-11
- There are consequences to sin. One day you will pay.
- Christians have been communicating through the Cloud for many years. It was just called Prayer.
- Don't ask God for just enough when you can ask him for more than enough.
- Stop telling God how big your problems are and start telling your problems how big your God is.