

# **The Cross is a Gift**

**A Cruciform Life**

**Experience God**

**'So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. **You are members of God's family.** Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets.**

**And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.”**

**Ephesians 2:19-22 NLT**

# Three Types of Churches:

- 1. Factory Church**
- 2. Fantasy Church**
- 3. Family Church**

**“God’s purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.”**

**Ephesians 3:10 (NLT)**

**“What we call revival is simply New Testament Christianity, the saints going back to normal.”**

**Vance Havner**

**A “Family Church Model” is how we best experience a sustainable revival and effectively pass it on to the next generation.**

# Transform lives through love!

- 1. Experience God.**
- 2. Be family.**
- 3. Share love everywhere.**



# 1. Experience God

## A. Cruciform

*“A life formed by and resembling the way of the cross.”*

- Reject greatness-‘ism’, success-‘ism’, popularity
- Embrace suffering
- Matthew 4:1-11, Acts 4:10, 7:54-60, 8:1; 1 Corinthians 1:23, 2:2; Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:6

# 1. Experience God

## A. Cruciform

## B. Mature in the New Creation Nature

*“Jesus is pruning our sin habits so that we fully mature into our new creation nature.”*

- 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10; 1 Corinthians 3:16; John 3:3

# **1. Experience God**

**A. Cruciform**

**B. Mature in the New Creation Nature**

**C. God meets us in every season**

- Genesis 16

**“Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.’”**

**Matthew 16:24 NIVUK**

**“Whoever does not take up their cross  
and follow me is not worthy of me.”**

**Matthew 10:38 NIVUK**

# What do you do?

- 1. Answer, "Whose disciple do I want to be?"**
- 2. Deny what you want.**
- 3. Take up your cross.**
- 4. Follow Jesus.**
- 5. Obey Jesus.**

**The Cross is a Gift**

**A Cruciform Life**