



**"No Cross,
No Crown"**

The Cross and Crown

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The world's largest occupied building is the Burj Tower in the Middle East, going up 2,722 feet – more than half a mile – above the desert. The building has 62 miles of pipes delivering water to its 163 floors, not to mention another 132 miles of pipes for the fire emergency system.

Can you imagine the kind of water pressure that's required to get water almost a half mile up, with the intensity needed to put out fires, in the middle of the desert? And to think – all of that pressure is controlled by the spigot it comes out of. Depending on the spigot, water gushes out in a powerful stream or a trickle gentle enough to bathe a newborn baby.

It's amazing to me that God's infinite power is, similarly, constrained by us, the human vessels through whom it flows.

Twice in the Gospels, we read that Jesus was amazed by faith. Mark tells us that, when Jesus visited his hometown the people whom he grew up with saw him as just a kid from the neighborhood rather than God in the flesh. Jesus, unable to do many miracles as a result, was amazed by their lack of faith.



Matthew and Luke tell about the centurion came to Jesus on behalf of his paralyzed servant. When Jesus offered to go see the servant, the man, counting himself unworthy of a visit by Jesus, said, "Just say the word, and my servant will be healed." (Matthew 8:8). Again, Jesus was amazed, not having seen that kind of faith even among the Israelites.

Faith is an amazing thing. We know that we don't have any power to do great miracles in ourselves, but it is our faith that determines the kind of miracles that God can work through us. We have the ability to amaze Jesus with our faith. Let's amaze the way that the centurion did, not the way those in his hometown did.

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1

Thanks for Praying!

We are so grateful for all that God is doing among us in response to your prayers! Please join us in praying

- for the moms and young children who have recently begun fellowshipping with us,
- for those the participants in this month's baptism and membership classes, and
- for summer ministries and the young people in our neighborhood.







Family Night: Family fun after a Friday evening program

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?

Humans can survive for about two to three months on only water. Without water, the body can only survive for about a week. (Hint: Water represents the Holy Spirit. 😊)

“My soul thirsts for you, my whole being longs for you,
in a dry and parched land where there is no water.”

(Psalm 63:1)



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