

Marinating in God's Word:

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Have you ever worn a cross? Why or why not? What does it mean to put a cross on the wall in our homes, or front and center in our sanctuaries? We sense that the cross it is something more than a good luck charm. But what impact does it have?

Paul's language is strong. In v. 23 he says the Greeks see the cross as "moros" (from which we get "moronic," though here translated "foolishness"), and the Jews see it as a "skandalon" (from which we get "scandal," though translated here "stumbling block.") Why do you suppose the philosophically oriented Greeks saw the cross as moronic? And why did the religiously oriented Jews see it as a scandal? How do non-believers in America see the cross?

What, if anything, did the monuments in Richmond represent to you? Do you see their removal as a good thing, a bad thing, or some mix of the two?

How does the cross judge the various iconic loyalties of our lives? How does it fulfill the noble loyalties? How does it shine a judging light on our ignoble loyalties?