

## The Rest of Abiding: Rooted in the Cross and New Horizons

Lent 2026

We live in a time of overlapping voices, constant immediacy, and absolute connectivity. We are expected to have opinions, to respond, to take a stand without pause. Our schedules demand our full attention and, almost without realizing it, our souls become fragmented. We are scattered.

Yet in the midst of this weariness, Christ remains our center and refuge. The answer is neither new nor sophisticated; paradoxically, it is ancient and challenging: to return to the cross. Throughout history, temptation has taken different forms, yet it has maintained the same purpose—to distract the heart and displace what is essential.

In Corinth, the cross was beginning to be overshadowed by human eloquence and loyalties to its church leaders. The community organized itself around names, affinities, and speeches rather than around Christ crucified. For this reason, Paul clearly warns: “so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power” (1 Cor. 1:17). The danger was stripping it of its centrality by mixing it with human pride.

This warning was not only for the church’s devotional life; it was also a correction in the way the gospel was understood and communicated. The cross shapes not only spirituality, but also the way we think, teach, and exercise leadership. When theology becomes separated from the Crucified One, it risks turning into an exercise in eloquence, an ideological assertion, or a pursuit of academic and social recognition.

To be rooted in the cross is to return to the center when everything pushes us toward dispersion. It is to return to the simple truth of the gospel: Christ in us, the hope of glory. In a world that rewards immediate reaction, the cross leads us into silence. There our motivations are purified. There the desire to be right, to impose ourselves, or to be recognized loses its strength. Before the Crucified One, we remember that we are not redeemers, but redeemed.

If the cross shapes our character before it shapes our agenda, it must also shape the way we do theology. A theological education rooted in the Crucified One does not seek to produce more eloquent voices, but more faithful communities and deeper relationships. It does not pursue cultural relevance at any cost, but humble discernment. And the resurrection, far from pushing us into hyperactivity, frees us to teach and serve from hope, not from anxiety about proving our professional relevance.

In a time that demands we “do and do,” the resurrection restores us to the rest of abiding. We are not called to sustain the world with our own hands, but to live from Christ’s finished work. The cross frees us from anxious activism and reminds us that true fruitfulness is born in intimacy. Only in this way can we recognize the new horizons that the resurrection opens before us—not positions to occupy or spaces to conquer, but the deep joy of walking with Christ in the processes He Himself sustains.

LENTEN 2026  
Theological Reflections

# Rooted at the Cross

New Horizons of  
Resurrection

Arraigados en la Cruz,  
Nuevos Horizontes  
de Resurrección



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