

The Cross of Jesus Christ is the crown jewel of God's glory.

What makes what we do any different than what the Peace Corps does? Will we not feed and clothe the poor and needy? The distinction lies in this reality: Any man can be well-fed, well-clothed, well-housed and still die in his sin, hostile to God, and go to hell. It follows then, that mercy ministry without a passion for the Gospel becomes nothing more than humanitarian work. We are merciful people because Christ has shown us infinite mercy. But the emphasis must always be on the Cross alone.

Galatians 6:14 says, "Far be it from me to boast except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

The main reason why we must be more Christ-centered and Cross-saturated is that everything - everything good that we enjoy, and everything bad that God turns for the good of his redeemed children - was purchased by the death of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. (John Piper, Don't Waste Your Life)