

LEA Weekly Devotion

Eyes, Minds & Hearts series for 2019

Week of March 10, 2019

Read this first: [Hebrews 12:1–3](#)

Cross Eyes

“... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross...” (Heb. 12:2).

“If you keep doing that with your eyes, they will grow that way!” Thus spaketh Mom—and every other mom on Lloyd Avenue. Those moms were as united as were their sons, forming an effective deterrent to viral activities such as crossing your eyes and making a funny face.

But maybe a religion lesson lurked there.

The writer to the Hebrews captured the concept of cross eyes, urging believers to focus on the cross. In matters of faith, this clarifies your vision rather than distorting it. Of course, not everyone would agree.

Sin prefers that we confuse *cross eyed* with *cross eyes*. Sin attempts to blur and confuse and disorient what you see, hear, read, think, and feel about our Triune God. Some people enjoy that view. Others don't know that any other view exists. And still others slip into that cross-eyed view due to spiritual negligence when it comes to reading and hearing the Word or dining regularly at the Lord's Table.

Not so for you.

Your eyes are cross eyes. They look to Jesus. They see Him as a baby. They see Him in the temple, on the road, and preaching from a hillside. Most of all—and especially at this time of the church year—they see Him on the cross, doing what appears to be a most ungodly thing. Bleeding. Gasping. Dying like a criminal. For you. For me.

Your eyes continue to focus on the cross, but now it's empty! Jesus paid the full sacrificial price for your sins, so glance over to the tomb. It's empty too. If it weren't Lent, you could probably shout an *alleluia* here. That's okay. You'll have plenty to cheer aloud for in a few weeks. For now and always, keep your eyes on the cross.

If you keep doing that with your eyes, they will grow that way.

[Now about your ears...](#)

Questions for Reflection:

- How do you “train” your cross eyes?
- In what ways do sin and Satan (and yourself) sometimes have crossed eyes instead of cross eyes?
- What evidence of cross eyes do you have in your surroundings?

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Quoted Scripture: [NIV®](#)

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Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. (Jude 24–25)