

Rhode Island Mission Trip (July 13-19)

- Helping a church plant in Central Falls primarily targeting Puerto Ricans with a VBS-style program
- Partnering with Harvest Church
- Looking for 10 people from ICC (families welcome)
- Email with link to apply



Building Purchase Update



A close-up photograph of a weathered wooden plank lying on a sandy, light-colored ground. The plank is stained with fresh, dark red blood. Several dark, pointed nails are embedded in the wood and scattered on the sand around it. A thorny, dark branch lies across the lower left portion of the plank. The background is a soft-focus view of the same sandy ground.

The meaning
of THE

CROSS

“Covering My Shame”



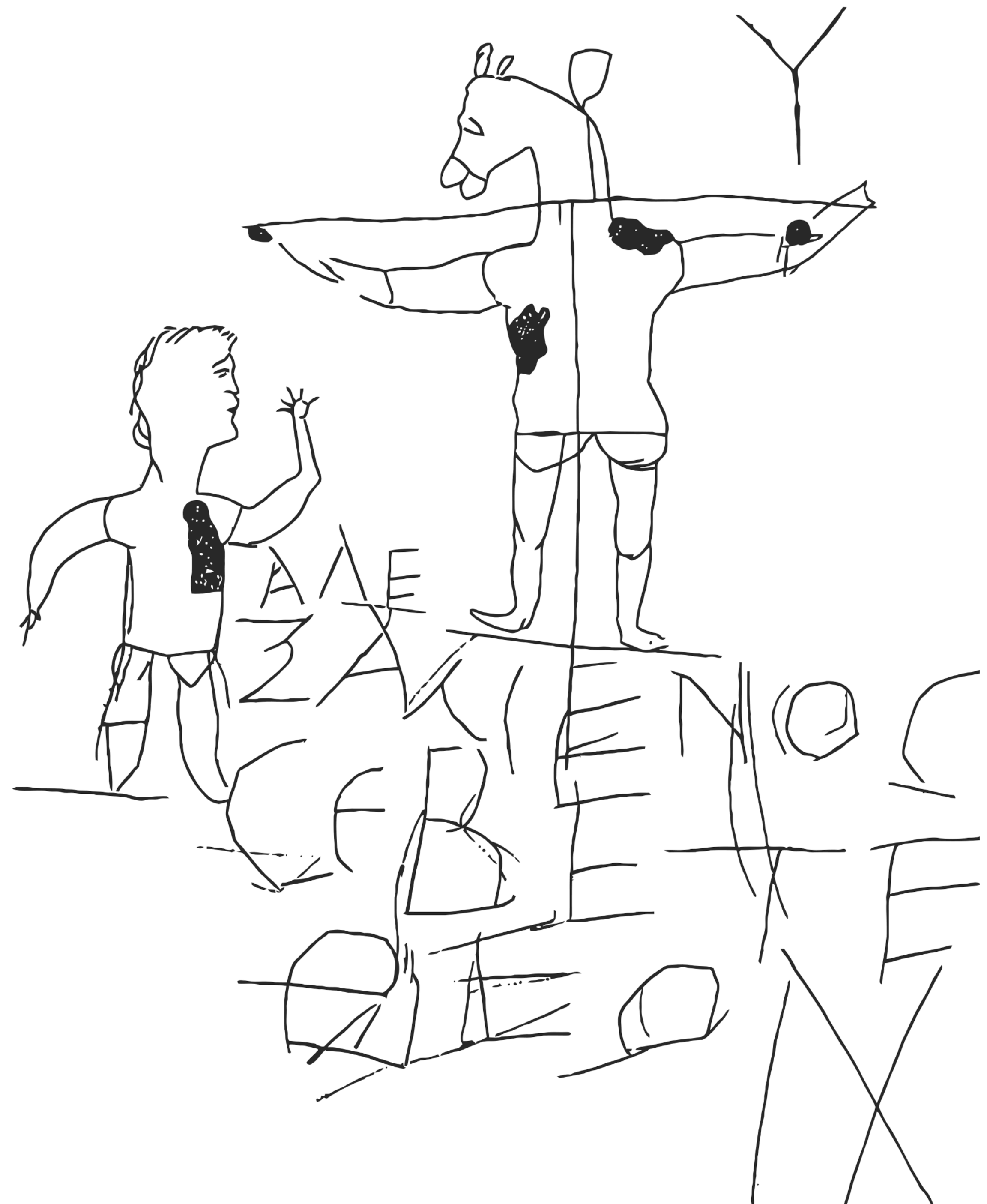
The meaning
of THE

CROSS

The cross has many different meanings that help us to understand our salvation through different lenses.







Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

Why did God choose
such a shameful form
of death for his Son?

Genesis 2:25

Adam and his wife were both
naked, and they felt no shame.

Genesis 3:7

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.



Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. (Genesis 3:8)



Guilt tends to be more about the individual,
but shame is primarily relational.

Genesis 3:21

The LORD God made garments
of skin for Adam and his wife
and clothed them.

Hebrews 12:1-12

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Brian Zahnd

On Good Friday the sin of the world coalesced into a hideous singularity that upon the cross it might be forgiven en masse.

The Wood Between Two Worlds

Rebecca Pippert

One of the most wonderful implications of the cross is that it frees us from the pretense of innocence. We live in a world that is absolutely terrified of being discovered as being inadequate. You know for all of our bravado and boast, the great secret about human beings is that we're so alike. We're all so afraid that we're inadequate. One of the wonder things about the cross is that it frees

Rebecca Pippert

us to own up to our badness and to not live in despair over it. To pretend to be innocent in light of the cross is according to C. S. Lewis, “Like being a divorcee pretending to be a virgin.” Integrity does not mean that we act as though we don’t have a problem. Integrity means we refuse to deny that we have a problem. We must abandon our lust for innocence.