

Reflection:

- >> Sometimes all you need is a Cross.
- >> This week begins the season of Lent for Christians. It is a time to focus
- >> on the Cross. Here is a verse that I have carried with me for a long
- >> time. I think it's even in my "hip pocket". I began to think about this
- >> when we served as "Clowns for Christ" in college, campus ministry, and
- >> camping ministry. It was a turning point in my understanding of theology.
- >> I wanted some proof that all this fun stuff was okay. I thought about
- >> the way of the cross. It was certainly foolish in the eyes of the world.
- >> Some people today still reject the belief in a God who would sacrifice
- >> Himself for others, a God who would go to such great lengths to be
- >> beaten, spit upon, stripped of his clothing, plated with a crown of
- >> thorns, (for nothing really and for everything), and to be utterly
- >> humiliated on a cross.
- >>
- >> The Verse: "For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who
- >> are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God... We
- >> proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to
- >> Gentiles. But God's wisdom is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness
- >> is stronger than human strength. God chose what is foolish in the world
- >> to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the
- >> strong. Christ, the power of God and the wisdom of God." (Portions of 1
- >> Corinthians 1)
- >> Sometimes all you need is a cross.
- >> So this is what I thought at that young age: If I can present the gospel
- >> without words, more with actions, no - with animate actions; if we
- >> clowns could show Jesus' suffering and death in some creative, playful,
- >> fun and yet serious and sobering way, then we will have proclaimed the
- >> foolishness of the cross and make everyone just a little bit wiser.
- >> Sometimes all you need is a cross.
- >> Have you ever taken a cross and poured out the blood? Have you ever
- >> broken a baby, because that is what it looked like for some - mother
- >> Mary for sure, more a loaf of bread, on a cross? That's what the clowns
- >> did. And we were all the wiser.
- >> Sometimes all you need is a cross, friends. All you need is a cross.

- >> "Brother's Keeper" has this song entitled, "Take Me to The Cross"
- >> Why don't you ponder the words? Play them over and over again. Ponder
- >> them. Keep them close to your heart this Lenten season.
- >> They are for you.
- >> Jesus Body and blood was broken and shed for you.
- >> Jesus gave his life for you.
- >> For you.
- >> All it takes is a cross:
- >> The song: "Take Me To The Cross", by the group "Brothers Keeper"
- >>

>> (Listen at www.myspace.com/brotherskeeperonline, or
>> www.haloproductions.net/brotherskeeper.html)
>> Show me all the sacred places
>> Show me where my faith was born
>> Show me where my heroes lived the life I'm longing for
>> Lead me to that ancient city
>> Where the blood of prophets runs
>> Lead me to His temple, take me to Jerusalem
>>
>> Take me to the manger so humble
>> Take me to the streets where He walked
>> Take me where the grand teacher taught us
>> Take me to the cross
>> Lead me to the tomb of rejoicing
>> Show me where my freedom was fought
>> Show me where my sin was forgiven
>> Take me to the cross
>>
>> Help me know and love His people
>> Help me see His divine plan
>> Help me have the courage to be more than what I am
>> Keep me looking for His coming
>> Crashing through both time and space
>> Keep me as a beggar longing for a taste of grace
>>
>> CHORUS
>>
>> Ancient mystery, human history
>> Here beneath my feet
>> Precious story, saving glory
>> Cries out from these streets
>>
>> Show me all the sacred places
>> Show me where my faith was born
>> Show me where my heroes lived the life I'm longing for

>> CHORUS

>> Prayer:
>> "Thank you, Jesus."
>> R.F.