

Corinth

Post

Modern

Faith

Unbroken

Recap

What is the greatest **threat** to the church today?

A **conflicted (divided)** church

I **appeal** to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in **harmony** with each other. Let there be no **divisions** in the church. Rather, be of **one mind, united** in thought and purpose. **Vs 10**

Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through **human** wisdom, he has used our **foolish** preaching to save those who believe. **Vs 21**

Recap

I am a follower of
I follow factions offended
human strength
nonsense quarrels
signs from heaven important
I follow only powerful
lose its power
scholars clever speech
wealthy philosophers
human wisdom
cross is foolish
world's brilliant debaters

divisions vs harmony
foolish vs wise

God's weakness foolish preaching
belong to Christ Jesus
spiritual gift Christ was crucified
despised preach the Good News
nothing at all enriched your
church in every way
foolish plan keep you strong
very power of God
holy people one mind
powerless
partnership with his Son
united in thought
and purpose

Recap

God has **united** you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be **wisdom** itself. Christ **made us right** with God; he made us **pure** and **holy**, and he **freed** us from sin. **Therefore**, as the Scriptures say, “If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord (Jer. 9:24).” **Vs 30-31**

Artificial Maturity, Tim Elmore

Today, because information is so prevalent, our kids assume they have [**experiential** knowledge] when they only have [**informational** knowledge]. With an abundance of knowledge, their confidence can soar, but it's based on a **virtual** foundation. Without experience, it's easier for knowledge to produce **judgmental attitudes, bullying, and arrogance.**

Analysts say there are increasing signs that a lack of independence fuels **stress, anxiety, and depression** among young people. ...Kids' early lives today are too full of **information** and **structure**, and too empty of **innocence** and the **freedom to play** and explore. But by adolescence, it's almost the opposite. It's as though they experience a flip-flop. Their lives are too full of freedom, and too empty of accountability.

Artificial Maturity, Tim Elmore

For the most part, adults have failed to build **true** ‘life skills’ in kids. We haven’t helped them self-regulate and make decisions about concerns that matter. Students’ busy schedules often aren’t all that meaningful, and young people spiral downward into despair over relatively trivial issues. Their days are full of **artificial activities** with **artificial consequences**, resulting in **artificial maturity**. The stress is real, but it is often over things that don’t really matter, and it isn’t building mature people.

As adults, we have done a poor job in getting this generation of kids ready for **life**. If they flounder, it is because we’ve focused on **preparing the path** for the children instead of the children for the path

Artificial Maturity, Tim Elmore

Artificial maturity is the result of two simultaneous realities in the 21st century. It can be summarized that kids are **over-exposed to information** earlier than they are ready & kids are **under-exposed to first-hand experiences** later than they are ready.

Ancient cultures had language for such circumstances. Two ancient Greek words for knowledge were **ginosko** and **epinigosko**. The first meant “to be **informed** or to be aware.” The second meant “to fully understand through **experience**.” It’s the difference between knowing about someone and knowing someone. We’ve unwittingly created a society where **information** is so prevalent that kids can become satisfied with ginoko and never go **deeper**. “A wealth of information creates a **poverty of attention**,” said Herbert Simon.



Likewise, in the church today we have people who have lots of **information** (some of it bad or even wrong) but very little **experience**. This leads to Christians becoming **insecure** in their faith and **responding immaturely** to culture

Are you **wise**?

“Over most of the one thousand years of philosophy in ancient Greece and Rome, philosophy was assiduously studied in every generation by many ancient philosophers and their students as the best way to become **good people** and to live **good human lives**.” John M. Cooper, *Pursuits of Wisdom: Six Ways of Life in Ancient Philosophy from Socrates to Plotinus*

As we are looking at this passage from First Corinthians together, we are learning why it is that all our **accumulation of knowledge** does **not** ever seem to help us **handle life better**. The reason, however, is not so much because of the **lack of knowledge** -- we all have lots of knowledge today -- but because of the **lack of wisdom**, true wisdom, and this is why this passage is so fantastically helpful to us. **Ray Stedman**

You can't get enough **knowledge** to make you wise

You don't get wisdom from **imitation**

Wisdom is not found in **comfort**

Failure is usually the first step towards wisdom

When I first came to you, dear brothers and sisters, I didn't use **lofty words** and **impressive wisdom** to tell you God's secret plan. **2:1**

σοφία, **Sophia**: the wisdom which **belongs**
to men, **skill**, knowledge and **practice**

Wisdom is not simply in the mind, it is also the **methods** of culture. Paul continually contrasts this with God's way as if the two are mutually exclusive

I came to you in **weakness—timid and trembling**. And my message and my preaching were very **plain**. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the **power of the Holy Spirit**. I did this so you would **trust** not in human wisdom but in the **power of God**. *Vs 3-5*

Yet when I am among **mature believers**, I do speak with words of wisdom, but not the kind of wisdom that belongs to this **world** or to the **rulers of this world**, who are soon forgotten. **Vs 6**

No, the wisdom we speak of is the **mystery of God**—his plan that was **previously hidden**, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. **Vs 7**

But it was to us that God revealed these things by his **Spirit**. For his **Spirit** searches out everything and shows us God's **deep secrets**. No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own **Spirit**. **Vs 10-11**

When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from **human wisdom**. Instead, we speak words given to us by the **Spirit**, using the **Spirit's** words to explain spiritual truths. **Vs 13**

But people **who aren't spiritual** can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all **sounds foolish** to them and they can't **understand** it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. The person with the Spirit makes **judgments** about all things, but such a person is not subject to **merely human judgments**, Vs 14-15

ανακρινω, Anakrino, judge: to investigate, examine, enquire into, scrutinize, sift, question, determine the excellence or defects of any person or thing

What do the **smart, powerful people** of the world do with Jesus of Nazareth? Well, the answer is they **crucify** him, don't they? They **reject** him; they **deny** him; they put him to **death** if they possibly can. That is what they did in the 1st century and that is what they still do **today**. Why? Because they think he is crazy? No, even today, 2,000 years later, nobody thinks Jesus was crazy.

Well, why do they **resist** him? The answer, of course, is not because they think he is crazy, but because they are **afraid he is right**. He **threatens** people. **Ray Stedman**

Paul uses wisdom **6x** in chapter two

lofty words and impressive **wisdom** 2:1

human **wisdom** but in the power of God. 2:5

words of **wisdom**, but not the kind of **wisdom** that belongs to this world or to the rulers of this world, who are soon forgotten. Vs 6

No, the **wisdom** we speak of is the mystery of God 7a

do not use words that come from human **wisdom**. 13a

I relied only on the power of the **Holy Spirit** Vs 4

But it was to us that God revealed these things by his **Spirit**. For his **Spirit** searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. Vs 10

and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own **Spirit**. Vs 11

And we have received **God's Spirit** (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. Vs 12

Instead, we speak words given to us by the **Spirit**, using the **Spirit's** words to explain spiritual truths. Vs 13

But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from **God's Spirit** Vs 14

for only those who are spiritual can understand what the **Spirit** means Vs 14

Starting point I **relied** only on the power of the **Holy Spirit** Vs 4

Learning God **revealed** these things by his **Spirit**. For his **Spirit** **searches** out everything Vs 10
know God's **thoughts** except God's own **Spirit**. Vs 11

Experience And we have **received** **God's Spirit**...so we can **know** the wonderful things Vs 12 Eido: experience

Witness we **speak** words **given** to us by the **Spirit**, using the **Spirit's** words to **explain** spiritual truths. Vs 13

Audience who aren't spiritual **can't receive** these truths from **God's Spirit** Vs 14
who are spiritual **can understand** what the **Spirit** means Vs 14

In our daily lives the authenticity of our faith is **tested**. We wish to **engage**, to **represent** the King and the Kingdom, but our culture is becoming increasingly **hostile**. The **temptation** becomes to **modify** or **assimilate** to the **culture**.
To make the message of Christ and the Cross less **offensive** to culture

Only **wisdom** will help us to navigate this

For,

“Who can know the Lord’s **thoughts?**
Who knows enough to teach him?”

But we understand these things, for we have the **mind of Christ.** Vs 16

testimony about God vs 1

Jesus Christ and him **crucified** vs 2

God's wisdom, a **mystery** vs 7

The Spirit **searches** all things vs 10

thoughts of God except
the Spirit of God vs 11

knowledge

understand what God
has freely given us vs 12

words **taught** by the Spirit vs 13

explaining spiritual realities
with Spirit-taught words vs 13

discerned only through the Spirit vs 14

weakness with great
fear and trembling vs 3

demonstration of the
Spirit's power vs 4

God's **power** vs 5

so we can **know (eido)**
the wonderful things vs 12

+ practice = wisdom

(Spirit)

with the Spirit makes
judgments vs 15

not subject to merely
human **judgments** vs 15

Are you **wise**?

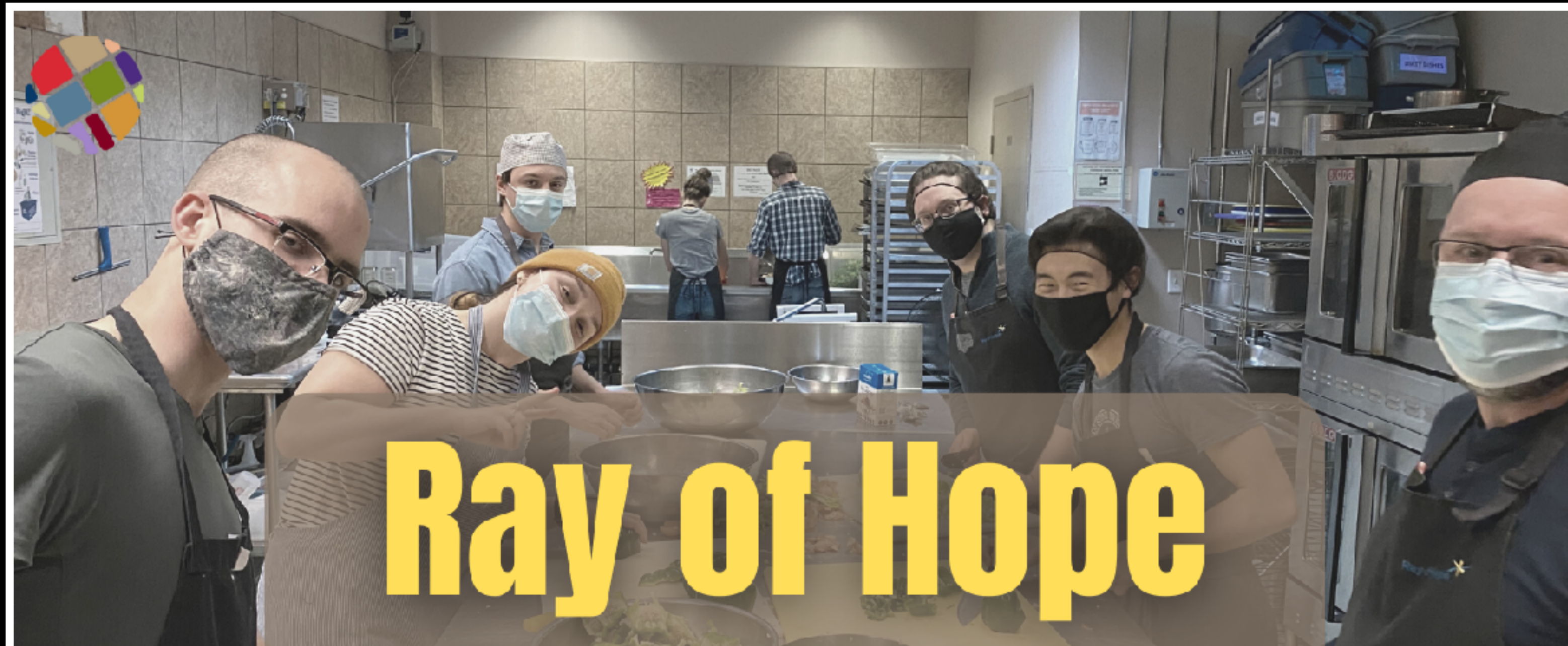
Vs 2

For I decided that while I was with you I would **forget everything** except Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified. *Vs 2*

How does Paul confront the most **corrupt city (culture)** in the Roman Empire? He doesn't, he leans into the Holy Spirit. He "**forgets everything**" except Christ.

The distinction is important, learn culture, methodology and values, **or** learn Jesus.

View Christ through culture **or** view culture through Christ?



Ray of Hope

Thursday July 21





UCC Waterloo Sermons

Raja Stone

CHRISTIANITY · UPDATED WEEKLY

UCC Waterloo Sermons

▶ Latest Episode

+ Follow



Episodes

See All

SUNDAY

Half-Life part 5

UCC Waterloo Sermons

1 h 47 min.

MAY 22

Half life part 4

UCC Waterloo Sermons

MAY 15

Half life part 3


UCC Waterloo Sermons


MAY 8


Half life part 2



UCC Waterloo Sermons

WELCOME TO
**UPTOWN
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Word. Worship. Community.

 **UCC Waterloo**
133 subscribers

SUBSCRIBED 

HOME **VIDEOS** PLAYLISTS CHANNELS ABOUT 

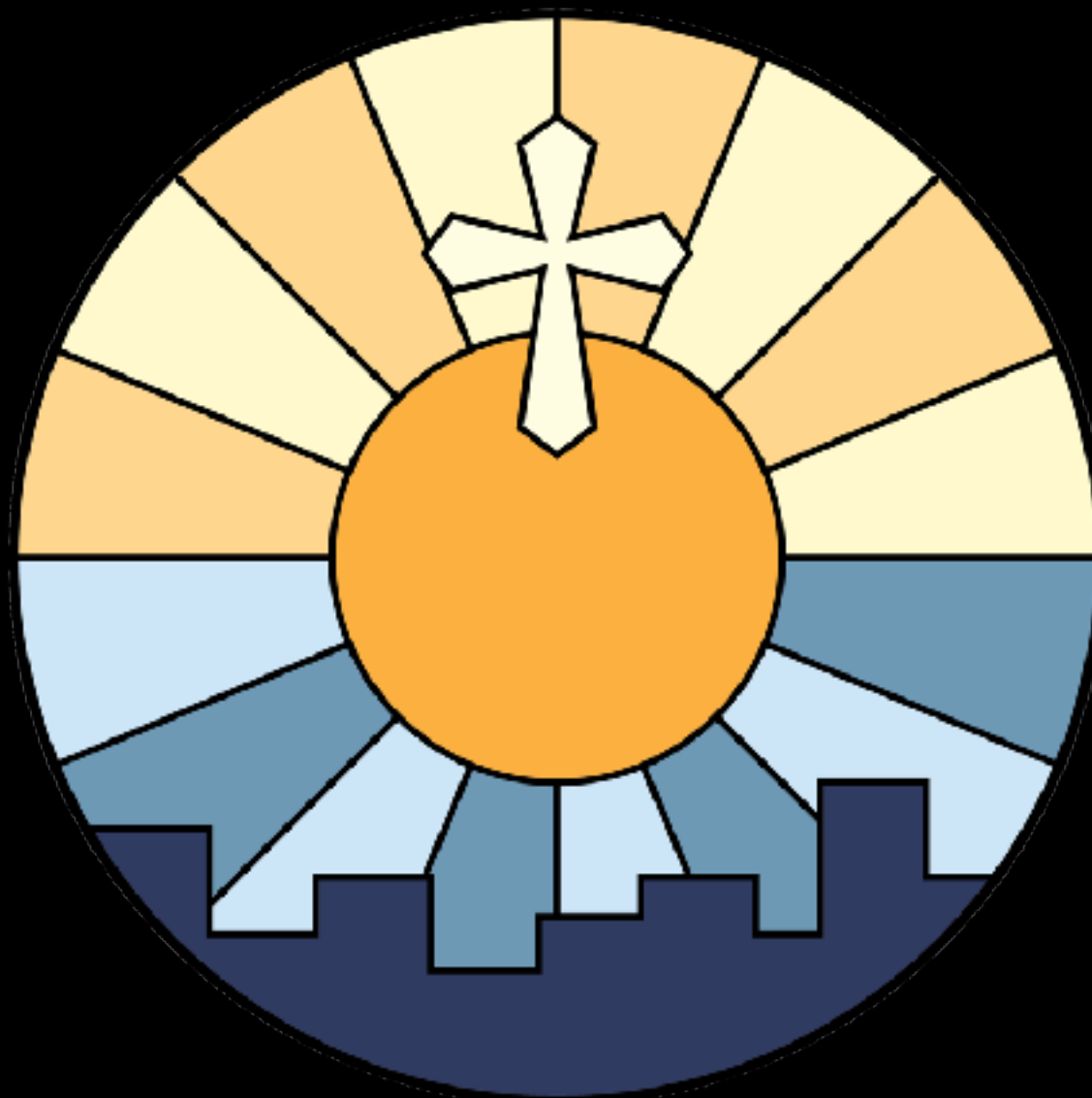
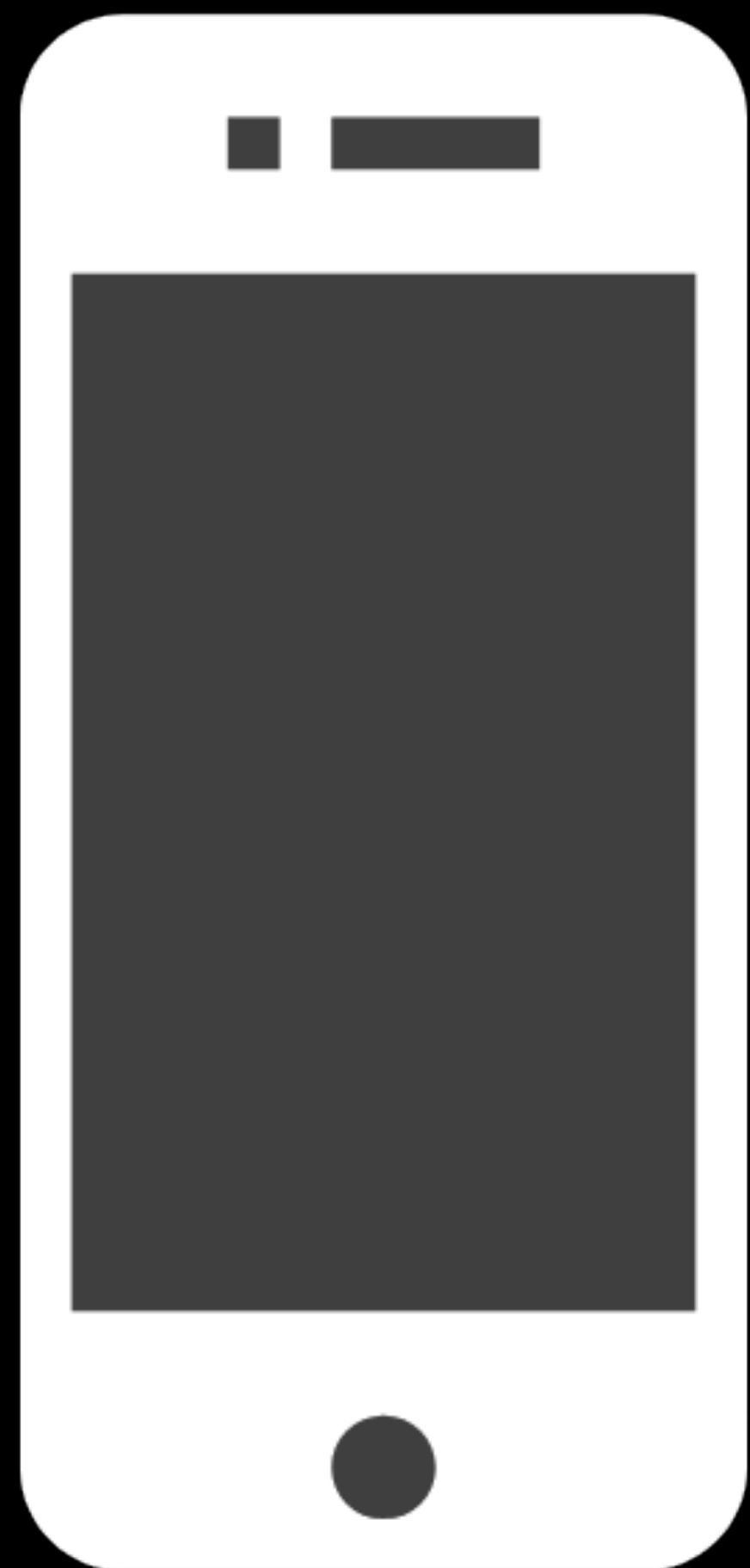
Uploads   SORT BY

Video Title	Duration	Views	Streamed
UCC Waterloo Live Stream	2:10	115 views	Streamed 1 year ago
UCC Waterloo Live Stream	1:20:28	277 views	Streamed 1 year ago
December 27th 2020 Service	47:36	117 views	1 year ago
Uptown Kids December 27th	15:27	35 views	1 year ago
UCC Christmas Eve Service 2020	39:56	142 views	1 year ago

Content will be uploaded by the latest **Monday** night

text2give

226-909-0014



eTransfer

info@uccwaterloo.ca

(auto deposit)