

The Words of Forgiveness & Salvation

Luke 23:32-43

Focus: on receiving and extending the forgiveness and salvation Jesus offered the undeserving from the cross.

Resources:

Here are 2 overview devos for the 7 last words of Jesus:

http://www.breakpoint.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/BreakPoint_Seven-Last-Words-of-Christ-giveaway-booklet_v4-Free.pdf

<https://hubpages.com/religion-philosophy/THE-SEVEN-SAYINGS-OF-CHRIST-FROM-THE-CROSS>



NW's 2018 Priority

Bought: we belong to Christ!

we want to ...

- be captivated by the truth that we belong to Christ, that we are His people and...
- be in awe of this privilege...
- respond in willing obedience...
- invite others to join us!

Discussion:

- Read Luke 23:18-43 together.
- Discuss what is most powerful about Jesus' offer of forgiveness in light of what he was experiencing? and in light of whom he was offering it to? What makes this offer most powerful in your thinking?
- How ought Jesus willingness to forgive his enemies like this shape your forgiveness of those who wrong you? You may want to have people share scenarios where it was hard for them to forgive. (cf. Matt. 18:21, 22; Col. 3:12, 13; Mark 11:25; Eph. 4:32)
- Discuss the contrasting responses to Jesus from the 2 criminals. How would you account for this?
- What is exemplary about Dysmas' (the 2nd criminal) faith? How ought the mercy shown him by Jesus encourage you concerning your sins? How ought this affect your hope in sharing Jesus' message of forgiveness with others?
- What most impacted you about these 2 words of Jesus? Is there a takeaway for you? Spend time praying for one another, for the message of the forgiveness and salvation in Christ to be increasingly received and shared. This would be a good time to pray by name for lost friends you long to know Christ's words.