



Sermon series: The Last Words of Jesus
Text: Luke 23:32-38
Delivered: February 20th, 2022

Forgiveness

Big Idea: A clear view of the cross leads to a distinct wonder of forgiveness.

The Cross gives us a picture of the _____ of our sin. (Vs. 32-33; 35-38)

1. The Cross shocks us with the _____ of sin.
2. The Cross shocks us with God's _____ of sin. (Isaiah 53:10)

"If you are ever tempted to think that God takes sin lightly, look at Calvary." -Erwin Lutzer

The Cross gives us a picture of what we _____. (Vs. 32-33; 35-38)

1. Jesus was _____ so we could be forgiven. (Isaiah 53:12; 1 Peter 2:24)
2. Jesus _____ died so that we could live.

The Cross gives us a picture of God's _____. (vs. 34)

1. God doesn't _____ to forgive.
2. God does _____ to forgive.

"What makes God glad to forgive you? Not your merits, not your vows, and not your future potential, but rather the worth of the Lamb who was slain." -Scott Hubbard

Takeaways: The Cross gives us _____ to live in the present.

1. We find the power to live without _____.
2. We find the power to have a _____ disposition.

Take a minute to read through the seven last sayings of Jesus on the Cross. They can be found in order here: Luke 23:34; Luke 23:43; John 19:26-27; Matthew 27:46; John 19:28; John 19:30; Luke 23:46. Which of these is the most shocking to you? Which of these is the most difficult to understand?

R.C. Sproul says, "That I am drawing breath this morning is an act of divine mercy. God owes me nothing. I owe him everything." What makes it hard to believe that on a day-to-day basis? How might believing that lead to more joy and gratitude in your life?



How might you respond to someone else who asks, "If God is so gracious and merciful, why doesn't He just forgive everyone?"

Do you picture God being annoyed at forgiving you when you sin, or do you picture him being excited and delighted to forgive you? Why?

Are there times when you tend to dwell on past failures or sins? Are there ways you live with a constant low-level sense of guilt? What can you preach to yourself in those moments to get your eyes off yourself and onto Jesus?

Are there specific ways or areas that you would like to grow in being able to have a forgiving disposition? Take a moment to share as a CARE Group and then pray for each other.

Take a moment to watch this video of Shelby Houston from 2:31-4:00: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5CWaRHplNc>. What makes a story like this so powerful? How does it give you a better window in Christ's heart and what he did on the cross?