

The Thief on the Cross

Luke 23:32-43

32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. 33 When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals--one on his right, the other on his left. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

35 The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."

36 The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar 37 and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

38 There was a written notice above him, which read:

39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

40 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. "

43 Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

Discussion Questions:

Why is it dangerous to focus on building your own legacy?

What is the difference between the road of the cross and the road of self-preservation? Why doesn't following Jesus lead to self-preservation?

Why does God love the least and those who have nothing good to bring?

Why does God use us at our weakest moments instead of using our strengths?

What does it look like to boast through God's grace in your life?

How does it encourage you to know that God will never forget your name?

Ministry Time Questions:

Are you struggling with God's call for you to follow Him?

Are there strengths in your life that you need to lay down and surrender over to Jesus?