

Red Letter Day

The Power of Forgiveness

The Net Church

Ryan May

March 12th, 2017

Luke 23:32-43 – Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. When they came to a place called The Skull, they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left.

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing." And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice.

The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed. "He saved others," they said, "let him save himself if he is really God's Messiah, the Chosen One." The soldiers mocked him, too, by offering him a drink of sour wine. They called out to him, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" A sign was fastened above him with these words: "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, "So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you're at it!"

But the other criminal protested, "Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn't done anything wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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Reflection Questions

03.12.17 – Red Letter Day: The Power of Forgiveness

The following questions are designed for use personally or within a group setting to help you dig deeper into today's message. If you're not connected with a group, please visit: www.netchurch.cc/netgroups to see what groups are currently meeting.

- What stood out to you about this weekend's message? Why?
- Was there anything that challenged you? Explain.
- Based on your answers to the above questions, what do you think God may be saying to you? Discuss.
- What would it look like in your day-to-day life to respond to what God is saying?
- What plan can you put into action this week so that what God's saying to you sticks?
- How can your group or close friends best help you do what you're setting out to do this week? If you're in a group, be prepared at your next meeting to share how you're doing in following through on what's been discussed.

****After the message** we invite you to take **communion** with us – Stations are located near each exit. This is a tradition long practiced by followers of Jesus (see 1 Corinthians 11:23-26). At The Net we take communion by dipping bread (representing Christ's body) into a bowl of juice (representing Christ's blood) and eating it. This practice is called intinction. We also invite you to receive **prayer** during this part of our service. Leaders available to pray with you can be identified by their lanyards and will be standing in the auditorium at the lower exit to your right.

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