

Series: Unexpected Messiah Passage: Matthew 27:45-49 Title: The Cross (Part 2)

Speaker: Pastor David Menard, 10/10/2021

Discussion Starter –Have you ever been with someone during his or her final moments? What do a person's final statements reveal about his or her core values and beliefs? What do you think you will say to those to who you will be leaving behind as your final words before you die?

Jesus' Declares His Desire is to Forgive Sin (Luke 23:34)

- Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do" What is meant by this declaration? How are we to interpret this statement as it pertains to universal forgiveness?
- What do you think Jesus meant when He said, "they know not what they are doing"? How does this apply to us today?
- Read Isaiah 53:12 and Hebrews 4:14-16. What additional insights can we gain from these verses and how can we be more like Jesus concerning our attitude toward peoples' shortcomings in our lives?

Jesus Declares His Mission – To bring us to God (Luke 23:39-43)

- Why do you think the 2nd thief's attitude toward Jesus change? What seems to have happened to cause this change?
- Why might some people think that it is unfair that the criminal can be saved at the very end of his life and go to heaven after living his whole life in sin? Read Mathew 20:1-16. What lesson is Jesus showing us in this parable to explain this dilemma?
- What are some of the amazing things that happen when we invite Jesus into our lives as our LORD and Savior? Where is your mission field and how do you know if you are harvesting in God's will?

Jesus Provides our needs, John 19: 25-27

- What do we learn of Jesus priorities from this statement during this time of great personal suffering? Why do you think Jesus chose John to be the one to look after His mother?
- Read Luke 2:25-35. How is Simeon's prophecy being fulfilled?

The Cost of Salvation, Matthew 27:45-47

- Pastor Dave referred to the crucifixion as the most significant event in human history. Why is this such an important event? What are some of the significant details that make it stand out as unique?
- Read 2 Corinthians 5:21, "He made Him, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God, in Him." What is the significance of the 3 hours of darkness?
- How does our life fulfill Jesus' mission for us? Where and how do you carry out your mission?
- What hinders you from being missional every day?