

Easter Lesson

From the Cross

The last words of Jesus from the cross are some of the most profound, provocative, and personal words ever spoken. We want to take this week to consider the significance and application of these divine words to our lives.

FIRST SAYING FROM THE CROSS:

Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do. Luke 23:34

1. How does this speak to you about Jesus' purpose on the cross?
2. Link this with 1 John 1:9 and share your thoughts.
3. How do these words affect your perspective on forgiveness?

SECOND SAYING FROM THE CROSS:

Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise. Luke 23:43

1. Briefly summarize the events of Luke 23:39-43.
 - a. What stands out to you from this encounter?
2. What blesses you about Jesus' promise to the thief?

THIRD SAYING FROM THE CROSS:

Woman, behold your son! John 19:26

1. Read John 19:25-27 and describe the scene.
 - a. How do you think Mary must have felt at this time? See also Luke 2:34-35.

- b. How do Jesus' words magnify both His love and His humanity?
 - c. How did John respond to this commission?
2. Share your thoughts as you consider Jesus' compassion.

FOURTH SAYING FROM THE CROSS:

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Mark 15:34

1. Often a rabbi would refer his students to specific psalms by quoting the first line. On the cross, Jesus drew the attention of His disciples to Psalm 22. Read Psalm 22 and record phrases concerning the following:
 - a. The emotional suffering of Jesus (verses 1-2, 6-7, 19-21)
 - b. The purpose of His suffering (verses 3-5)
 - c. His relationship to the Father (verses 9-11)
 - d. The physical suffering of Jesus (verses 12-18)
 - e. The accomplishment of the cross (verses 22-31)

FIFTH SAYING FROM THE CROSS:

I thirst! John 19:28

1. Jesus felt the cosmic thirst of life without God that we may never thirst! Use the following Scriptures to underscore what is ours because He thirsted:
 - a. John 4:14
 - b. John 7:37-38

c. Revelation 22:17

2. Why are you thankful that Jesus felt this thirst for you?

SIXTH SAYING FROM THE CROSS:

It is finished! John 19:30

1. This phrase in Greek is *Tetelestai*. It means, *accomplished, paid in full, completed*. Use Colossians 2:13–15 to declare what was accomplished by Jesus' death on the cross.

a. What does it mean to you that Jesus' work for your salvation is:

(1) Finished

(2) Accomplished

(3) Paid in full

(4) Completed

SEVENTH SAYING FROM THE CROSS:

Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit. Luke 23:46

1. Link this saying with John 10:17–18. Share your thoughts.

2. How are you blessed by Jesus' voluntary suffering and death in order to save you?

3. Which saying of Jesus from the cross ministers to you the most this Easter season?

