

## LIFE GROUP HOMEWORK

### DIGGING DEEPER (CONT.)

3. As a group, narrow your focus to Luke 23:39-43.
  - In this section of the text, the two criminals are offered as stark contrasts to each other. It is possible that the author intended to use this to highlight certain character traits in the criminal whom Jesus saves from the cross. What character trait(s) do you think the author wanted to highlight? Why?
  - What might the dialogue between this criminal and Jesus reveal to us about salvation?
  - Have someone read the following two verses: James 2:24 and Ephesians 2:8-9. How do you reconcile these two verses, and what light, if any, is shined on our understanding of salvation?

### TAKING IT HOME

1. Is it easier for you to grant forgiveness, or ask for it? Why do you think that is? What can you do this week to improve in this area?
2. The criminals crucified on either side of Jesus had two very different responses to Him—one responded in arrogance, and the other in humility. What is your default response?

## SUNDAY MAR. 26, 2017

**Series:** “Last Words” A look into the heart of Jesus

**Message #1:** “Last Words About Forgiveness”

**Speaker:** Pastor Mark Brunott

*This message is available on your phone/tablet through YouVersion app.*

### MESSAGE NOTES:

#### The Crucifixion:

#### Luke 23:34 / Jesus said:

“Father forgive them, for they know not what they are doing.”

#### Luke 23:43 / Jesus said:

“I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

## LIFE GROUP HOMEWORK

### QUICK REVIEW

According to Pastor Mark, there are seven statements that Christ communicated on the cross. What are the first two statements that he referred to in his message on Sunday? What did he say about these statements?

### MY STORY

1. It's game time! Split up your group evenly as best you can. Each half will be given a word to act out without speaking. The goal is for each team to be able to guess the other's word.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What was the hardest aspect of forgiveness for you to learn or understand as a child? Feel free to share specific examples if you have any.

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. Take a few moments to reflect on Luke's account of the Passion narrative in Luke 23.
  - What parts stand out to you? What is your reaction after reading this passage? Take some time to share your insights and feelings about the Passion narrative with your group members.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. In Luke 23:33-39, it becomes clear very quickly that the people watching Jesus suffer and die didn't believe that He was who He said He was.
  - Compare and contrast their lack of faith (along with the lack of faith of one of the criminals being crucified with Jesus, see v. 39), with the faith of the other criminal.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Knowing this, how would you define faith? (Reference verses in your answer.) Here are some verses to get you started: Hebrews 11:1, 1 Thessalonians 5:8, and 1 Peter 1:8-9.