

THE WORD OF FORGIVENESS

When Love Speaks: Seven Words from the Cross- Part 1

“Great crowds trailed along behind him, including many grief-stricken women. But Jesus turned and said to them, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, don’t weep for me, but weep for yourselves...’ “Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. Finally, they came to a place called The Skull. All three were crucified there—Jesus on the center cross, and the two criminals on either side. “Then Jesus said, ‘FATHER FORGIVE THEM, for they do not know what they are doing.’ And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice. As the crowd stood watching, the leaders laughed and scoffed at Jesus. ‘He saved others,’ they said, ‘let him save himself if he really is God’s Chosen One, the Messiah.’ The soldiers mocked him, too, and offered him a drink of sour wine. They called out to him, ‘If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!’”

Luke 23:27-37 (NLT)

WHAT WE USUALLY DO WITH GUILT

1. _____

“When I refused to confess my sin, I was weak and miserable, and I groaned all day long...My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide them. I said to myself, ‘I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.’ And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.”

Psalm 32:3-5 (NLT)

“You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins.”

Pr. 28:13 (GN)

2. _____

“‘Yes,’ Adam admitted, ‘but it was the woman you gave me who brought me some, and I ate it.’”

Gen. 3:12 (LB)

“Some people ruin themselves by their own stupid actions and then blame the Lord.”

Pr. 19:3 (GN)

3. _____

“My guilt has overwhelmed me; like a load it weighs me down... because I was foolish, I am bent over and bowed down; I am sad all day long.”

Psalm 38:4-6 (NCV)

WHAT JESUS WANTS US TO DO WITH GUILT

1. _____

“The Lord gave us a mind and a conscience. We cannot hide from ourselves.”

Pr. 20:27 (GN)

“Let us examine our ways and test them...”

Lam. 3:40

2. _____

“I recognize my faults. I am conscious of my sins...”

Ps. 51:3

“Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed.”

James 5:16 (LB)

3. _____

“If we freely admit that we have sinned, we find God utterly reliable... he forgives your sins and makes us thoroughly clean from all that is evil.”

1 John 1:9 (Ph)

“All of us have sinned... yet God declares us ‘not guilty’ IF we trust in Jesus Christ, who in mercy freely takes away our sins.”

Rom. 3:23-24 (LB)

WHAT JESUS DOES WITH MY GUILT

• _____

“God is merciful and quick to forgive.”

Isa. 55:7 (GN)

• _____

“He has forgiven ALL your sins. He has utterly wiped out the evidence of broken commandments which always hung over our heads, and has completely annulled it by nailing it to the cross!”

Col. 2:13-14 (Ph)

• _____

“(Christ)... is always interceding on our behalf.”

Heb. 7:25 (Ph)

• _____

“For by the sacrificial death of Christ we are SET FREE, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the GRACE of God!”

Eph. 1:7 (GN)

“What happiness for those whose guilt has been forgiven!... What relief for those who...God has cleared their record!”

Ps. 32:1-2 (LB)

THE WORD OF ASSURANCE

When Love Speaks: Seven Words From The Cross – Part 2

“One of the criminals hanging beside Jesus hurled insults at him. ‘So you’re the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself – and us, too, while you’re at it!’ But the other criminal rebuked him, ‘Don’t you fear God even when you are dying? We deserve to die for our evil deeds, but this man has not 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.’”

Luke 23:39-43 (NLT)

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED? 5 Facts the Dying Man Knew

1. _____

“Don’t you fear God even when you are dying?”

Luke 23:40 (NIV)

“Everyone must die once, and after that be judged by God.”

Hebrews 9:27 (TEV)

2. _____

“We deserve to die for our evil deeds...”

Luke 23:41 (NIV)

“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23 (NIV)

3. _____

“...But this man has not done anything wrong!”

Luke 23:41 (NIV)

“There is not a single person in all the earth who is always good and never sins.”

Ecclesiastes 7:20 (NLT)

“God had Christ, who was sinless, take our sin so that we might receive God’s approval through him.”

2 Corinthians 5:21 (GW)

4. _____

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me..."

Luke 23:42 (NIV)

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast."

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

5. _____

"...when you come into your Kingdom."

Luke 23:42 (NIV)

"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..."

Acts 16:31 (NIV)

WHAT IS MY ASSURANCE OF SALVATION?

"Jesus replied, 'I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.'"

Luke 23:43 (NIV)

It is _____ **"Today"**

It is _____ **"you will"**

It is _____ **"be with me"**

It is _____ **"in paradise"**

WHEN CAN I BE SAVED?

"...This is the hour to receive God's favor; today is the day to be saved!"

2 Corinthians 6:2 (TEV)

"Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Romans 10:13 (NLT)

THE WORD OF LOVE

When Love Speaks: Seven Words From The Cross – Part 3

“Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple (John) whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, ‘Dear woman, here is your son,’ and to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.”

John 19:25-27 (NIV)

TO LOVE LIKE JESUS I MUST ...

1. _____

“Honor your father and your mother.”

Exodus 20:12 (NIV)

“Show respect for widows who really are all alone. But if a widow has children or grandchildren, they should learn first to carry out their religious duties toward their own family and in this way repay their parents and grandparents, because that is what pleases God.”

1 Timothy 5:3-4 (TEV)

“If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

1 Timothy 5:8 (NIV)

By supporting them

“Friends love through all kinds of weather, and families stick together in all kinds of trouble.”

Proverbs 17:17 (MSG)

2. _____

“Do not rebuke an older man (in the church), but appeal to him as your father. Treat the younger men as your brothers, treat the older women as mothers, and treat the younger women as sisters, with all purity.”

1 Timothy 5:1-2 (TEV)

“Be devoted to each other like a loving family. Excel in showing respect for each other.”

Romans 12:10 (GW)

“Whenever we have the opportunity to help anyone, we should do it. But we should give special attention to those who belong to the family of believers.”

Galatians 6:10 (NCV)

“Share each other’s troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ.”

Galatians 6:2 (NLT)

3. _____

“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 2:5 (NIV)

“Since Christ suffered and underwent pain, you must have the same attitude he did; you must be ready to suffer, too. For remember, when your body suffers, sin loses its power.”

1 Peter 4:1 (LB)

4. _____

“Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, ‘how can I help?’”

Romans 15:2-3 (MSG)

“When God’s children are in need, be the one to help them out. Get into the habit of inviting guests home for dinner or, if they need lodging, for the night.”

Romans 12:13 (NLT)

THE WORD OF SUBSTITUTION

When Love Speaks: Seven Words From The Cross – Part 4

“At noon, darkness fell across the whole land until three o’clock. At about three o’clock, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ‘Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?’ which means, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’”

Matthew 27:45-46 (NLT)

WHAT HAPPENED?

“He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.”

1 John 2:2 (NIV)

“God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God’s goodness into us!”

2 Corinthians 5:21 (LB)

WHAT DOES IT TEACH US?

1. _____

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.”

Revelation 4:8 (NIV)

“Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong.”

Habakkuk 1:13 (NIV)

2. _____

• _____

“Your evil has separated you from your God and your sins have caused him to turn away from you, so he does not hear you.”

Isaiah 59:2 (NCV)

• _____

“My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear.”

Psalms 38:4 (NIV)

• _____
“God is a righteous judge and always condemns the wicked.”

Psalm 7:11 (TEV)

“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23 (NIV)

3. _____

“God sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to satisfy God’s anger against us. We are made right with God when we believe that Jesus shed his blood, sacrificing his life for us.”

Romans 3:25 (NLT)

“Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing.”

Galatians 3:13 (NLT)

WHAT SHOULD BE MY RESPONSE?

1. _____

“We are made right in God’s sight when we trust in Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done.”

Romans 3:22 (NLT)

“If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for our sins is left.”

Hebrews 10:26 (NIV)

2. _____

“Now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God—all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done for us in making us friends of God.”

Romans 5:11 (NLT)

3. _____

“God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. The ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.”

1 Peter 1:18-19 (NLT, LB)

4. _____

“God is patient for your sake. He doesn’t want to destroy anyone but wants all people to have an opportunity to turn to him and change the way they think and act.”

2 Peter 3:9 (GW)

THE WORD OF HUMANITY

When Love Speaks: Seven Words From The Cross – Part 5

“After this, Jesus knew that everything had been completed. So that the Scripture would come true, he said, ‘I am thirsty.’ There was a jar full of vinegar there, so the soldiers soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a branch of a hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ mouth.”

John 19:28-29 (NCV)

THE THIRST OF JESUS

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“Jesus gave up his place with God and made himself nothing. He was born to be a man and became a servant. And when he was living as a man, he humbled himself and was fully obedient to God, even when that caused his death on a cross.”

Phil. 2:7-8 (NCV)

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“When I was thirsty they offered me vinegar.”

Psalm 69:21 (NIV)

“Take a branch of the hyssop plant, dip it into the bowl filled with blood, and then wipe the blood on the sides and tops of the doorframes.”

Exodus 12:22 (NCV)

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“God demonstrated his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Rom. 5:8 (NIV)

THE THIRST OF OTHERS

“The time is coming when I will send famine on the land. People will be hungry, but not for bread; they will be thirsty, but not for water. They will hunger and thirst for a message from the Lord. People will stagger everywhere from sea to sea, searching for the word of the Lord, running here and going there, but they will not find it. Beautiful girls and fine young men will grow faint and weary, thirsting for the Lord’s word.”

Amos 8:11-13 (NLT)

• _____
“Lord, when did we ever see YOU hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? ...And He will tell them, ‘I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you were doing it to me!’”

Matt. 25:37-40 (NLT)

• _____
“If you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded.”

Matthew 10:42 (NLT)

• _____
“If your enemies are hungry, give them food to eat. If they are thirsty, give them water to drink.”

Prov. 25:21 (NLT)

SATISFYING YOUR THIRST

• _____
“O God, you are my God, and I long for you. My whole being desires you; like a dry, worn-out, and waterless land, my soul is thirsty for you.”

Psalms 63:1 (TEV)

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”

Matt. 5:6 (NIV)

• _____
“He took our suffering on himself and felt our pain for us... He was wounded for the wrong we did and crushed for the evil we did. The punishment, which made us well, was given to him, and we are healed because of his wounds.”

Isaiah 53:4-5 (NCV)

“Our High Priest understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same temptations we do, yet he did not sin.”

Hebrews 4:15 (NLT)

• _____
“My people have done two evils: They have turned away from me, the spring of living water. And they have dug their own wells, which are broken wells that cannot hold water.”

Jeremiah 2:13 (NCV)

“On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, ‘If you are thirsty, come to me! If you believe in me, come and drink!’ For the Scriptures declare that rivers of living water will flow out from within.”

John 7:37-38 (NLT)

Jesus said, “People soon become thirsty again after drinking this water. But the water I give them takes away thirst altogether. It becomes a perpetual spring within them, giving them eternal life.”

John 4:13-14 (NLT)

THE WORD OF VICTORY!

When Love Speaks: Seven Words From The Cross – Part 6

“Knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, ‘I am thirsty.’ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, ‘IT IS FINISHED!’ With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”

John 19:28-30 (NIV)

“Jesus said: ‘My food is to do what God wants! He is the one who sent me, and I must finish the work that he gave me to do.’”

John 4:34 (CEV)

WHAT DID JESUS ACCOMPLISH ON THE CROSS?

1. _____

“Jesus said to them, ‘This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.’ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, ‘This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.’”

Luke 24:44-47 (NIV)

2. _____

“The law of Moses could not save us, because of our sinful nature. But God put into effect a different plan to save us. He sent his own Son in a human body like ours, except that ours are sinful. God destroyed sin’s control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. He did this so that the requirement of the law would be fully accomplished for us who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.”

Romans 8:3-4 (NLT)

“He canceled the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ’s cross.”

Colossians 2:14 (NLT)

“Christ ended the law so that everyone who believes in him may be right with God”

Romans 10:4 (NCV)

3. _____

“God’s Son paid the price to free us, which means that our sins are forgiven.”

Colossians 1:14 (GW)

“He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.”

Hebrews 7:27 (NIV)

“Now that sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.”

Hebrews 10:18 (NLT)

4. _____

“The sin of one man, Adam, caused death to rule over us. But all who receive God’s wonderful, gracious gift of righteousness will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.”

Romans 5:17 (NLT)

“When Christ died, he died to defeat the power of sin one time – enough for all time.”

Romans 6:10 (NCV)

“Jesus became flesh and blood by being born in human form. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. Only in this way could he deliver those who have lived all their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.”

Hebrews 2:14-15 (NLT)

“By our baptism, then, we were buried with him and shared his death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from death by the glorious power of the Father, so also we might live a new life.”

Romans 6:4 (TEV)

5. _____

“God took away Satan’s power to accuse you of sin, and He openly displayed to the whole world Christ’s triumph at the cross where your sins were all taken away.”

Colossians 2:15 (LB)

“God has freed us from the power of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of his dear Son.”

Colossians 1:13 (NCV)

JESUS’ WORK IS FINISHED BUT OUR WORK IS UNFINISHED

“I only want to complete my mission and finish the work that the Lord Jesus gave me to do, which is to declare the Good News about the grace of God.”

Acts 20:24 (TEV)

THE WORD OF TRUST

When Love Speaks: Seven Words From The Cross – Part 7

“By this time it was noon, and darkness fell across the whole land until three o’clock. The light from the sun was gone. And suddenly, the thick veil hanging in the Temple was torn apart. Then Jesus shouted, ‘FATHER, I ENTRUST MY SPIRIT INTO YOUR HANDS!’ And with those words he breathed his last. When the captain of the Roman soldiers handling the executions saw what had happened, he praised God and said, ‘Surely this man was innocent!’”

Luke 23:44-47 (NLT)

1. _____

“FATHER, I entrust my spirit into your hands!”

“As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who honor him...”

Psalm 103:13 (NIV)

2. _____

“Father, I ENTRUST my spirit into your hands!”

“For the word of the Lord holds true, and everything he does is worthy of our trust.”

Psalm 33:4 (NLT)

WHAT ABOUT...

... babies & those mentally incapacitated?

“The Lord protects the simplehearted.”

Psalm 116:6 (NIV)

... true believers who get confused & stop believing?

“Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world... Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully.”

2 John 1:7-8 (NIV)

... believers who commit suicide?

“If we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.”

2 Tim. 2:13 (NIV)

3. _____

“Father, I entrust MY SPIRIT into your hands!”

“When he is at work in the north, I do not see him; when he turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him. But he knows the way that I take; and when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.”

Job 23:9-10 (NIV)

SIX PHASES OF FAITH

“Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

2 Cor. 4:17-18 (NIV)

4. _____

“Father, I entrust my spirit INTO YOUR HANDS!”

GOD’S HANDS ARE ...

• _____

“You both precede and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.”

Psalms 139:5 (NLT)

• _____

“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! I have engraved you on the palms of my hands!”

Isaiah 49:15-16 (NIV)

• _____

“I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish...My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.”

John 10:28-29 (NIV)

“I think you ought to know, dear brothers, about the hard time we went through in Asia. We were really crushed and overwhelmed, and feared we would never live through it. We felt we were doomed to die and saw how powerless we were to help ourselves; but that was good, for then we put everything into the hands of God, who alone could save us, for he can even raise the dead.”

2 Cor. 1:8-9 (LB)