

# CROSS WORDS

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"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. . . 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."

Luke 23:32-33, 39-43

## What Must I Do To Be Saved? FIVE FACTS THE DYING MAN KNEW

**1. He Would \_\_\_\_\_ After \_\_\_\_\_**  
"Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die?"  
Luke 23:40

**2. He Was A \_\_\_\_\_**  
"We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve."  
Luke 23:41a

**3. Jesus Was \_\_\_\_\_**  
"... But this man hasn't done anything wrong." Luke 23:41b

**4. Only \_\_\_\_\_ Could \_\_\_\_\_ Him**  
"Then he said, "Jesus, remember me. . ." Luke 23:42a

**5. Jesus Is \_\_\_\_\_**  
". . . when you come into your Kingdom." Luke 23:42b

## THE WORD OF ASSURANCE

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

Luke 23:43

### God's Salvation Is...

- \_\_\_\_\_ "...today..."
- \_\_\_\_\_ "Truly I tell you... you will..."
- \_\_\_\_\_ "...be with me..."

### Memory Verse

"Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."  
Romans 10:13

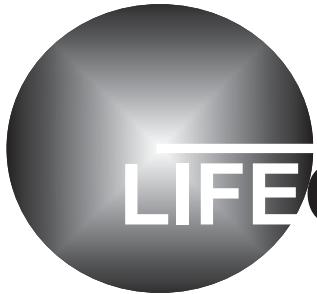
### Bottom Line:

\_\_\_\_\_ Don't Go To Heaven  
\_\_\_\_\_ Go To Heaven

### MY NEXT STEP IS TO. . .

- Memorize Romans 10:13
- Call on the name of the Lord for salvation for the first time
- Pray for someone who doesn't know Jesus and invite them to our Easter worship services
- Try to be here as much as possible for each message in the "Crosswords" series
- Get the most from this series by attending a LIFE group this week





# LIFE GROUPS

## Discussion Questions - Week #7

### QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend, "The Word of Assurance," summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Looking at your notes, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Is there any practical step you plan on taking this week in response to the message?

### GETTING STARTED

- If you could have assurance regarding one thing in your life, what would it be and why?
  
- Describe a time in your life when you experienced uncertainty regarding something particularly important to you. How did you feel and what did you do?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read 1 John 5:7-13. It is pretty apparent why the gift of eternal life is good news for us when we die. How do you think eternal life is good news for us while we're still living?

How would you answer a friend or family member that asked, "what does it mean to believe in the name of the Son of God?"

What does it mean that those that do not have the Son of God do not have life?

What do you do in light of that reality?

Do you think the assurance of our salvation leads to arrogance? Why or why not?

2. Read Ephesians 1:3-14. What stands out to you?

What difference does being in Christ make for the believer?

What does Paul suggest was behind God's purpose in choosing us?

How do you think we might live differently if we accepted the identity God bestows upon us rather than the one the world gives?

Is there a practical step you could take to live out your identity in Christ better?

### FOR PRACTICE

In his book *The Great Omission*, philosopher Dallas Willard states, "If I had to—and of course I don't have to—choose between all the disciplines of the spiritual life and take only one, I would choose Bible memorization." To be genuinely transformed by the assurance of our salvation requires transforming our thought life. As the author of Hebrews says, "We must fix our eyes on Jesus" or, as Paul says in Colossians, we are to "set our mind on things above." One of the main ways to do so is the discipline of memorization paired with the contemplation and meditation on those truths memorized. As they say, "neurons that fire together wire together." Thus, as we think God's thoughts after Him, eventually, His thoughts as they are revealed in His Word will actually replace ours more and more.

### SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

### PRAYER REQUESTS