

# STATEMENTS FROM THE CROSS

Lesson #1 -Father, Forgive Them

Scripture Reading: Luke 23:32-37

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Introduction:

1. The cross reveals the great love God has for man.
2. This unusual statement from the cross teaches us a great lesson on forgiveness.
3. In this lesson we will examine 3 aspects of forgiveness...

## **I. THE FORGIVING NATURE OF JESUS**

### **A. WHAT HE ENDURED**

1. The rulers and soldiers mocking Him -Lk 23:35-37
2. The criminals were mocking Him -Mk 15:32

### **B. HIS FORGIVENESS**

1. No one crucified has a forgiving nature toward their executioners
2. It is the greatest demonstration of God's love -Ro 5:6-9; Jn 15:13

## **II. THE FORGIVING NATURE WE MUST HAVE**

### **A. WE FORGIVE TO BE LIKE JESUS**

1. Steven displayed forgiveness -Ac 7:60
2. We can have a forgiving attitude toward those not sorry

### **B. WE FORGIVE TO BE FORGIVEN**

1. The teaching of Jesus -Mt 6:14, 15
2. The number of times is not relevant -Mt 18:21, 22; Lk 17:3, 4

## **III. HOW WE CAN BE FORGIVEN**

### **A. THE CROWD AT THE CROSS**

1. The statement of Jesus did not forgive them
2. They still had to repent on their own -Ac 2:37, 38

### **B. MAN TODAY**

1. Man must repent and obey Jesus -Lk 13:3, Jn 14:15
2. The blood of Jesus cleanses us today -Ep 1:7

Conclusion:

1. Anyone who comes to Jesus can be forgiven -1Ti 1:12-16
2. The cross teaches us the great love of God and His power to forgive