

Sermon Questions for Community Groups

Sermon: Forsaken

Date: April 9, 2017

Scripture: Matthew 27:45-54

1. Read Luke 7:36-47, the story of the sinful woman forgiven. Do you tend to look at what Jesus did for you on the cross as the \$4.50 delivery charge or the millions of dollar debt owed to Canada Revenue being paid on your behalf? Why?
2. What was the cause of the abandonment of the Son by God the Father? What possible cause did God have in forsaking Jesus?
3. In the garden we see Jesus greatly distressed to the point that his blood mingles with his sweat. What is it that pushes him to the edge of his sanity?
4. If the cup is God's wrath against sin and Jesus never sinned, why would he have to drink the cup?
5. Jesus' cry on the cross is not a scream of despair; it is an anguished cry of trust. Jesus is running to God the Father in prayer, not away in unbelief. Where in your life are you struggling in unbelief? What is keeping you from running to your Father in prayer? Shame? Guilt? Distractions? Self-sufficiency?
6. In light of what Jesus did on the cross, we can clearly see that sin is no small thing. It's not something to be laughed at nor is it some \$4.50 debt that is easily paid for. How do we live lives that take sin seriously?
7. What meaning is there for us in Jesus' God-forsaken cry?
8. How has the grace of God been transforming you recently?
9. Where in your life do you sometimes experience despair (utter loss of hope)?

My prayer requests: