

Annual Theme – “God’s Love Seen In 2018”

Series: *God Loves People*: Jesus loves everyone and is compassionate towards all people. As we continue our series called “God Loves People” we see the mercy of Jesus even as he’s being led to the cross. In this message we examine how Jesus loves murderers, even those who murdered him.

Jesus Loves Murderers

Luke 23:33-34

1. The Murder of Jesus: *“they crucified Him”*

- A. A Human Plot
- B. A Divine Purpose

2. The Mercy of Jesus: *“Father, forgive them”*

- A. A Prayer to His Father
- B. A Part of His Character

3. The Motive of Jesus: *“for they do not know what they do”*

- A. What It Doesn’t Mean
- B. What It Does Mean

LifeGroup Questions:

BEGIN IT (5min) – Time spent praising the Lord and opening prayer.

OPEN IT (10min) – When have you had to endure teasing or abuse?

EXPLORE IT (60min) – Read Luke 23:33,34. Now review Sundays sermon outline together allowing for questions, comments and contributing thoughts.

1. Why did Jesus choose not to save Himself from His suffering on the cross?
2. In vv.35-39 how was Jesus treated by others while He was hanging on the cross?
3. How does Jesus’ response to His approaching death set an example for all Christians?
4. In what way could we be like the crowd around the cross?
5. How should we imitate Christ’s example of forgiveness?

APPLY IT (15min) - What does this passage and message teach you about forgiveness?