

Title: "Unresolved"

Text: Luke 23:34

Target: For the next 7 weeks we will listen, learn and lean into the final words of Jesus upon the cross, seeking to understand why He chose these 7 statements, what did they mean in context, and how do they lead us to respond today. The first statement of Jesus centers on the word "forgiveness" teaching us to bring a resolution to what may be unresolved that needs to be reconciled.

I. Forgiveness begins Vertically: "Father"

- a. **Perspective in Prayer:** (You love me/You see me/You get me)
- b. **Priority of Prayer:** (Releasing Control/Receiving Counsel/Reciprocate Compassion)

II. Forgiveness is to be offered Repeatedly: "Forgive Them"

- a. **Value the Term:** "to release, remit, and remove"
- b. **Verb Tense:** Imperfect verb tense
- c. **Verifying "Them":** ("them" is "us" and "us" is "them")
 - i. Judas who betrayed Him
 - ii. Peter who denied Him
 - iii. Pilate who condemned Him
 - iv. Soldiers who mocked Him
 - v. Crowd who rebuked him
 - vi. Religious leaders who blasphemed Him
 - vii. Criminals who railed Him

Key Verse: Isaiah 53:12

III. Forgiveness must be viewed practically: "for they know not what they do"

- a. **Ignorance is not Innocence:** (Choices have consequences)
- b. **Forgiveness is not Foolishness:**
 - i. Forgetting
 - ii. Repaying
 - iii. Owning
 - iv. Guarantying

IV. Forgiveness is always costly: "and they cast lots to divide His garments."

a. The Risk: To get back what was taken leads to **Fear, Oppression, Resentment, Guilt, Inconsolable, Vengeance, and Exhaustion.**

b. The Reward: The reward at the cross for the soldiers was the clothes of Jesus, instead of being clothed by Jesus.

Take Away: Make a list three names of unresolved relationships that you need to release, take them to the Father and reach out to them personally (Ephesians 4:32)