

"The Three Thieves" - Discussion Questions

- 1. What was interesting in today's Exchange service? What was confusing?
- 2. What do you want your last words to be?
- 3. What do you think you will be concerned with at the end of your life?
- 4. Has there ever been a dark time in your life when one small thing/event gave you hope? What happened?
- 5. When was a time when you were given a second chance? How well did you use it? Did you value it?
- 6. When was a time when you gave someone a second chance and how did it turn out? Did the recipient value their second chance?
- 7. Do we know of any famous people that have been given second chances and have squandered them? How does that make us feel? Are we making the most of the second chance that Christ gave us?
- 8. Why do we sometimes reject forgiveness? (from God, from others)
- 9. The Bible says in 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." But it would seem that Jesus forgave regardless of any confession and he pled for the Father to forgive even though there was no confession or sorrow for sin. A) Does God only forgive when we ask for it? B) Do we forgive only when others confess/admit their wrong?
- 10. How do we expect God to forgive us when we don't forgive others? Is God able to help us forgive or is that something that time takes care of?
- 11. How do the bitter things we say hurt ourselves in the process of trying to hurt others? Do we gain anything by using harmful words against others? Does it at least help us feel better?
- 12. Is it better to say nothing at all than to say kind words even though we are hurting and don't mean it inside?
- 13. What's the difference between bullying and teasing? Who decides, the speaker or the hearer? Is it possible to be careful in our word choices while still being comfortable and close with people?
- 14. Is a positive deathbed decision enough to undo a life of poor choices? What if some of the world's historical 'bad guys' actually sought forgiveness on their deathbeds (e.g. Hitler, Pol Pot etc.)?
- 15. What personal application are you leaving with from today's Exchange?