

MARK PRICE

May 5, 6 & 7, 2023

“Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they’re doing.”

Luke 23:34



7 LAST WORDS of CHRIST *St Gabriel’s Men’s Retreat*

The Seven Last Words of Christ *Reflections for Holy Week*

The First Word: FORGIVE

“Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they’re doing.”

(Luke 23:34)

The Second Word: HOPE

“I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

(Luke 23:43)

The Third Word: FAMILY

“Dear woman, here is your son.”

(John 19:26)

The Fourth Word: LONELINESS

“My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”

(Mark 15:34)

The Fifth Word: THIRST

“I am thirsty.”

(John 19:28)

The Sixth Word: LETTING GO

“It is finished!”

(John 19:30)

The Seventh Word: TRUST

“Father, I entrust my spirit into your hands!”

(Luke 23:46)

The Three Statements of Jesus after the Resurrection and before Ascending

The First Statement: ASSURANCE

“Fear not. Be Not Afraid”

(Matthew 28:10, Luke 24:36 & Luke 24:38)

The Second Statement: CONFIDENCE

“Bear Witness. As the Father sent Me, I also send you.”

(Acts 1:8, John 20:21)

The Third Statement: ASSISTANCE

“Receive Power. Receive the Holy Spirit.”

(Acts 1:8, John 20:22 & Acts 4:31)

Reflection Questions

1. Do you really believe God has forgiven your sins? Do you take time on a regular basis to confess your sins so that you might enjoy the freedom of forgiveness? Do you need to experience God’s forgiveness in a fresh way today?
2. Have you staked your life on Jesus? Have you put your ultimate trust in him? Do you know that, when your time comes, you will be with him in paradise?
3. What does Mary’s presence at the cross evoke in you? Why do you think was it necessary for Jesus to suffer physical pain as he died?
4. Have you taken time to consider that Jesus was abandoned by the Father so that you might not be? What does this “word” from the cross mean to you?
5. How do you respond to Jesus’ statement “I am thirsty”? What does this statement suggest to you about Jesus? About yourself?
6. Do you live as if Jesus finished the work of salvation? To you have confidence that God will finish that which he has begun in you?
7. Have you put your life and, indeed, your life beyond this life, in God’s hands? How do you experience God’s salvation through Christ in your life today?