



THE FINAL WORD

STUDY QUESTIONS AND CONVERSATION GUIDE

It is a curious thing to discover a condemned man's last words. Some desperately plead their innocence, others express their remorse or regret, and others obstinately justify their horrendous behavior. The truly innocent One, Jesus, did none of that, but instead ministered even while he waited to die. In this series, we will hang on each word our Savior uttered.

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INTERCEDING – FATHER FORGIVE THEM

It's the most stunning of events. Jesus hangs on the cross, enduring great pain and agony that will only be relieved by death. Mockers jeer. Religious leaders show no compassion. Soldiers gamble away his clothes. And Jesus's heart breaks for them.

QUESTIONS

- We want a recap. It's the last day – Good Friday. What events have taken place thus far?

- What physical torture has Christ already endured? What more awaits him as each labored breath brings him closer to death?

- Let's discuss the extent of the mockery. (vv 36-38)

- The first utterance of Christ on the cross has significant components:
 - 1) Jesus calls God "father" – what does this tell us about Jesus?

 - 2) Jesus asks God to forgive them. Is he referring to those who are present at his execution? Why would he have compassion for them? During Jesus's ministry, HE was the one who forgave the sins of the transgressor. Why does he now appeal to God the Father?

 - 3) Jesus makes the case that they don't know what they are doing. What ARE they doing? Is it just because they are mocking him, or is it something eviler?

- How does this prayer of Jesus affect our lives today? How must we live in light of this tragic event?

SPRINGBOARD VERSE

Luke 23:34a ESV

And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do..."