

What is the most expensive gift you've ever been given?

What is the most valuable gift you've ever been given?

Why is forgiveness a gift?

 $\mathbf{1}^{st}$ because it is an act of mercy

- Mercy is not getting what I deserve

- 2nd because it is an act of grace
 - Grace is getting what I don't deserve

- Jesus is the Source of Forgiveness -

Jesus' teaching on forgiveness was counter-cultural and radical!

7 Statements on the Cross

1. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Luke 23:34

- 2. Today you will be with me in paradise.
- 3. Woman, here is your son! Here is your mother!
- 4. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
- 5. I thirst.
- 6. It is finished.
- 7. Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.

The Gospel –

That Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15:3b-4

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

1 Corinthians 15:17

Jesus' death on the cross is a 100% fact of history.

Jesus' resurrection has overwhelming evidence.

Why Forgiveness?

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

This is my blood, God's new covenant poured out for many people for the forgiveness of sins.

Matthew 26:28(MSG)

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life.

Romans 6:23a

But the trouble is that your sins have cut you off from God.

Isaiah 59:2a(TLB)

More!

Jesus has given us the gift of forgiveness...

So we can be forgiven

Jesus has given us the gift of forgiveness

So we can forgive

"No Future Without Forgiveness"

Prayer of Response

Jesus, we praise and thank you for the gift of forgiveness

Jesus I come to You who offers me forgiveness and has made it possible by your death on the cross and resurrection.

I ask you for your grace and mercy

I surrender to you as my Lord and Savior today