

Mark 15:29-36a
Series – Words from the Cross
Message – Forsaken
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Fifth Reformed Church
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What Would You Do?

- Mean Girls, Karate Kid, Back to the Future, 13, Elephant Man, Stand by Me, Beauty and the Beast, Spider-Man, Good Will Hunting, Carrie, and even, A Christmas Story.
- We often watch and wonder what we would do if we were faced with the situation described in the movie. Or we remember all too well that was me and it still hurts to think about that, whether we were bullied or were hurling insults.

We All Fall Short

- Jesus spent his life establishing his _____ over so many dominions.
- This man, who demonstrated such power and love for others is now being insulted, mocked, ridiculed, and crucified.
- “So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, come down from the cross and save _____!”
- “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself!
- “My God, my God, why have you _____ me?”
- Forsaken: to renounce or turn away from entirely. (Merriam-Webster)

Jesus Came to Seek and Save

- The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have _____, and have it to the _____.
- Jesus endures the cross, feeling forsaken by the Father, though he has not abandoned him, so that I might be justified,

reconciled and my sin atoned for in order for my relationship with the father to be restored.

- We have all _____ and fallen short of the glory of God.
- For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.
- He came that we might have life and have it to the full

The Time Has Come

- Jesus said in Mark 1:15: “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”
- Belief is more than an intellectual assent to a certain set of beliefs. Its about getting up and following Jesus and his teachings.
- When did you confess Jesus as Lord? Is today your day?

How will you respond to God’s word today?

Reflection Questions

1. So, what was your experience in High School or College? Were you on the receiving end of ridicule or the presenter? Perhaps you were an observer. What would you tell your childhood self today about how to handle such ridicule?
2. How do you see your role in Jesus needing to go to the cross?
3. What kind of darkness have you experienced? Is there darkness still lingering that you need to lay at the foot of the cross?
4. What do you remember about the time you confessed Jesus for the first time in your life? How are you aware of God speaking in your life today?
5. What captured your attention from the scripture or message?
6. What might God be saying to you?
7. What are you going to do about it?