

The Criminal On The Cross

Meeting Jesus #4 of 13
Tim Gill - September 20, 2015

What can I learn from the criminal on the cross?

1. It's never too **late to share the good news.** (v.43)

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³ Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." **Luke 23:42-43 (NIV)**

Tell everyone God's message. Be ready at all times to do whatever is needed. ... Do this with great patience and careful teaching. **2 Timothy 4:2 (ERV)**

So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord... **2 Timothy 1:8 (GW)**

2. It's never too **bad to change my life.** (v.39-42)

- The Greek: **One who uses violence to rob openly.**

The two criminals also said cruel things to Jesus. **Matthew 27:44 (CEV)**

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." **Luke 23:39-42 (NIV)**

How true it is, and how I long that everyone should know it, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—and I was the greatest of them all. ¹⁶ But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as an example to show everyone how patient he is with even the worst sinners, so that others will realize that they, too, can have everlasting life. **1 Timothy 1:15-16 (TLB)**

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life and be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins. ¹² For this reason I will make him a great man among people, and he will share in all things with those who are strong. He willingly gave his life and was treated like a criminal. But he carried away the sins of many people and asked forgiveness for those who sinned. **Isaiah 53:11-12 (NCV)**

3. It's never too **hard to come to Jesus.** (v.43)

"Then who in the world can be saved?" they asked.²⁶ Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, no one. But with God, everything is possible." **Matthew 19:25-26 (TLB)**

"... today you will be with me in paradise." **Luke 23:43 (NIV)**

Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. **Isaiah 45:22 (ESV)**

God says, "I heard you at the right time, and I gave you help on the day of salvation." I tell you that the "right time" is now. The "day of salvation" is now. **2 Corinthians 6:2 (ERV)**
