

**THE WORD OF FORGIVENESS**  
**When Love Speaks: Seven Words from the Cross- Part 1**  
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**Luke 23:27-37 (NLT)**

*“Great crowds trailed along behind him, including many grief-stricken women. But Jesus turned and said to them, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, don’t weep for me, but weep for yourselves...’*  
*“Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. Finally, they came to a place called The Skull. All three were crucified there—Jesus on the center cross, and the two criminals on either side. **“Then Jesus said, ‘FATHER FORGIVE THEM, for they do not know what they are doing.’** And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice. As the crowd stood watching, the leaders laughed and scoffed at Jesus. ‘He saved others,’ they said, ‘let him save himself if he really is God’s Chosen One, the Messiah.’ The soldiers mocked him, too, and offered him a drink of sour wine. They called out to him, ‘If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!’”* Luke 23:27-37 (NLT)

1. The first statement from the cross was a \_\_\_\_\_
2. The first statement from the cross was a prayer for \_\_\_\_\_
3. The first statement from the cross was a prayer for forgiveness for \_\_\_\_\_

**I. The Wrong response to the Prayer of forgiveness**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins.”* Pr. 28:13 (GN)
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“‘Yes,’ Adam admitted, ‘but it was the woman you gave me who brought me some, and I ate it.’”* Gen. 3:12 (LB)
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**III. The Right response to the prayer of forgiveness**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“The Lord gave us a mind and a conscience. We cannot hide from ourselves.”*  
Pr. 20:27 (GN)  
**To stop defeating myself I have to stop \_\_\_\_\_ myself.**
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“I recognize my faults. I am conscious of my sins...”* Ps. 51:3  
  
*“Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed.”*  
James 5:16 (LB)
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“If we freely admit that we have sinned, we find God utterly reliable... he forgives your sins and makes us thoroughly clean from all that is evil.”* 1 John 1:9 (Ph)

*“All of us have sinned... yet God declares us ‘not guilty’ IF we trust in Jesus Christ, who in mercy freely takes away our sins.” Rom. 3:23-24 (LB)*

### **III. The Saviors response to the prayer of forgiveness**

- 1. He forgives \_\_\_\_\_

*“God is merciful and quick to forgive.” Isa. 55:7 (GN)*

- 2. He forgives \_\_\_\_\_

*“He has forgiven ALL your sins. He has utterly wiped out the evidence of broken commandments which always hung over our heads, and has completely annulled it by nailing it to the cross!” Col. 2:13-14 (Ph)*

- 3. He forgives \_\_\_\_\_

*“(Christ)... is always interceding on our behalf.” Heb. 7:25 (Ph)*

- 4. He forgives \_\_\_\_\_

*“For by the sacrificial death of Christ we are SET FREE, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the GRACE of God!” Eph. 1:7 (GN)*

*“What happiness for those whose guilt has been forgiven!... What relief for those who...God has cleared their record!” Ps. 32:1-2 (LB)*