

Introduction:

TEXT: Luke 23:32-43, 1 Cor. 1:18, 22-24,30

A. Two different responses to the message of the cross of Christ seen in the story of the two thieves on the cross:

1. The Antagonistic Response (Luke 23:39; 1 Cor. 18:22-24)

a. The Cross of Rebellion

Pride _____

Pleasure _____

People _____

Pain _____

2. The Winning Response (Luke 23:40-23; 1 Cor. 1:18)

a. The Cross of Repentance

H- umility _____

A- greement _____

P- osture _____

P- roclaim _____

Y- ield _____

B. God’s response to man’s main problem = Sin and Death :

3. The Gracious Response (Luke 23:34, 43)

a. The Cross of Redemption

Declared _____ God’s love to the world

Defeated _____ death

Delivered _____ those who believe from the consequence of sin and death

The Big Idea: The winning message of the church is the cross of Christ, because it is the wisdom and the power of God.

Conclusion:

1) What do you think are the main reasons why some people choose to reject and rebel against the message of the cross of Christ?

2) Please read 1 Cor. 1:18-25 and answer the following questions.

a. Why do people that uphold worldly wisdom and human reason as their authority in life find the message of the cross of Christ as foolishness? (Please refer to verse 20)

b. In verse 25, the Apostle Paul said, “For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.” What does this verse reveal about God’s wisdom and strength compared to worldly wisdom and human strength?

c. How can the message of the cross of Christ, which is the wisdom and power of God change the way we look and value ourselves and others?

3) How can we effectively share and reflect the message of the cross of Christ in our everyday life?

4) Please give a short testimony of how the winning message of the cross of Christ helped you become a winner in life?

PRAY