



DIGGING DEEPER

Luke 23v34 – Father, forgive them

PLEASE READ – Luke 23v26-38

GETTING STARTED

Before we look at the prayer itself, consider for a few minutes what has happened to Jesus in the previous 24 hours, which helps to capture the enormity of the prayer

1) WHAT DOES JESUS PRAY FOR?

What does Jesus pray for and why? How does this fit with the emphasis of Jesus in his earlier ministry (See Luke 5v17-26 and Luke 6v27-28)

How does the prayer of Jesus both encourage you and challenge you?

2) WHO DOES JESUS PRAY FOR?

Who does Jesus have in mind when he prays ‘Father, forgive THEM...?’ (See Acts 3v13-15)

How wide is the scope of Jesus prayer?

Have a look at Isaiah 53v12 and talk about the fulfilment of that prophecy in relation to Luke 23v34...

3) HOW IS THE PRAYER ACTUALLY ANSWERED?

Think about some people who were there, whose conversions were quite likely a result of Jesus prayer...

In the end, who is actually forgiven? (See Acts 2v36-38)

Meditate on the words of Hebrews...

Hebrews 9v22: In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.