



Ice Breaker:

- Share a time when you had to face a difficult situation and how you responded. Did you find yourself relying on faith or something else?

Short Summary of the Sermon:

The sermon focused on the crucifixion of Jesus as described in Luke 23:32-43, emphasizing the significance of the fear of God and repentance. The pastor highlighted the responses of different people present at the crucifixion, particularly the two criminals crucified alongside Jesus. The sermon underscored that the fear of God leads to wisdom, blessing, and ultimately eternal life. The repentant criminal who feared God and acknowledged Jesus received the promise of paradise, illustrating the transformative power of genuine repentance and faith.

Group Questions:

1. How does the fear of God differ from being afraid of God? How can this fear be a positive influence in our lives?
2. Why do you think Jesus responded to the second criminal but not to the others who mocked or challenged Him?
3. Discuss the concept of grace in the context of accountability. How does understanding this help us in our daily walk with Christ?
4. How can we cultivate a heart of repentance and a healthy fear of God in our lives?
5. What are some modern-day "litmus tests" we might impose on God, and how can we move beyond them to genuine faith?

Life Application:

Reflect on areas in your life where you might be seeking a "get out of jail free card" from God rather than true repentance. Consider how you can shift your focus from seeking temporary relief to seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus.

Challenge:

This week, spend time each day in prayer, asking God to reveal areas in your life where you need to cultivate a greater fear of Him. Write down any insights or changes you feel led to make, and share them with a trusted friend or group member for accountability.