

The Easter Experience 2026

Session 5 – March 18, 2026

The Promise of Eternal Life

"There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle."

John 18:18

DISCUSSION:

1. Read the different gospel accounts of the crucifixion:
a. Matthew 27:32-56 b. Mark 15:21-41 c. Luke 23:26-49 d. John 19:16-37
2. As you are reading find the seven things that Jesus said while on the cross [they have come to be known as "The Seven Last Words."]
3. As you are reading notice the comments about the two other men that were crucified with Jesus.
4. Who were these other two men? What was their crime?
5. How do they react toward Jesus? Why are they insulting towards him specifically?
6. What shift happened to the one man crucified beside Jesus as reported by Luke?
7. How was his attitude one of repentance?
8. What did Jesus promise him?

9. He did nothing to deserve it; how is this a great example of mercy and grace?

10. Why would we use this story when we are teaching about the purpose of baptism or The Lord's Supper?

FOR REFLECTION:

In a sense the whole populations of the world have been crucified beside Jesus. We will all respond to Jesus like one or the other of the men.

Romans 6:23

Ephesians 2:8-10