

CHURCH OF CHRIST GULF SHORES

Sunday Evening Sermon

November 13, 2016 (by Ray Reynolds)

“reCONSTRUCT: The Story of Thief on the Cross”



Introduction: We are currently studying a series of lessons on second chances entitled: “STARTING OVER.” One of the main points for this entire series is to remind us that God is the God of second chances. In this lesson we are going to continue to build on that theme by introducing another character that God gave a second chance. I want to remind you of some things we know about the thief on the cross. He had an opportunity to hit the “reset” button. We will begin our study in **Luke 23:39-43** and study about this interesting character that interacted with Jesus. Let’s study together...

Discussion:

I. What Do We Know?

- A. *The Thief Was Deserving of His Sentence*
 - **Luke 23:1-25, 39-41, Matthew 27:41-44, Hebrews 9:15-17**
- B. *The Thief Was Dying for His Sins*
 - **Luke 23:42, 13:3, 5, Mark 2:1-10, 16:15-16, I John 3:4**
- C. *The Thief Was Determined to Save His Soul*
 - **Luke 23:43, Romans 3:19, 4:15, Galatians 3:23-25, Hebrews 10:9**

II. What Can We Learn?

- A. *Remember the Consequences of the Sin*
 - **Deuteronomy 21:23, Acts 5:30, 10:39, Galatians 3:13, I Peter 2:24**
- B. *Remember the Solution*
 - **Luke 23:42, Joel 2:32, Acts 2:21, Romans 10:13, I Corinthians 1:2**
- C. *Remember the Second Chance*
 - **Luke 6:46, Matthew 7:21, Mark 16:15-16, Acts 2:38-39, 22:16**

Conclusion: This series reminds us that transformation takes more than just good intentions and a sincere heart if we plan on starting over. We need to make serious changes (i.e. repentance, confession, obedience) in order to experience a full reset! What have you learned from the thief? Have you been saved from your sins? Are you ready to change? What have you learned from these stories? Have you repented of your sins? Have you confessed those sins? Are you living in obedience? How's your faith? How's your Christian walk? Do you need to press the reset button? You're just a few steps away from starting over. Come to Jesus!