

Legacy: Living a Life that Outlives You! - Part Five

Scripture used: Luke 23:39-43 (NLT)

OVERVIEW

In the fifth and final message of the Legacy series, Pastor Hurmon exhorted the church by sharing it is not too late to live a life that will outlive our own. Using the account of Jesus' crucifixion, he compared and contrasted the criminals who were on the crosses to the left and right of Him. Both criminals were revolutionaries who mocked Jesus, yet during their time spent hanging beside Jesus, one of them stopped mocking and started believing in Him. During the few torturous hours he spent beside Jesus, he saw and heard something from Jesus that caused him to ask Jesus, "Remember me when You come in Your kingdom." Both men suffered crucifixion justly for their deeds, yet the one who believed in Jesus during the last moments of his life will forever be remembered for his change of mind and heart. It was not too late for him to live a life that outlasted him and it is not too late for anyone whose heart still beats and lungs breathe air to do the same.

KEY POINTS

Big Idea:

- It's not too late to live a life that outlives you—but act NOW!
1. **STOP & THINK:** Is my life full of cynicism, bitterness and unbelief? Both criminals saw and heard the same things while they hung beside Jesus, yet one had a change of heart while the other did not. His cynicism, bitterness and doubt hardened his heart, and so he did not receive the love and free gift of salvation that he could have had. What is filling your life? Whatever it is, you are leaking it, and it will impact how other people remember you.
 2. **STOP & SEE:** Can I see the love, forgiveness, and power God has for me in Jesus? The man who believed saw and heard Jesus pray to God, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." His mind opened up and saw what he had never seen before: love. He saw the grace of God for the very people who put His Son on the cross. He then experienced the power of God's grace for himself. What do you see when you look at Jesus?
 3. **STOP & ASK:** Will I ask Jesus today, "Please remember me and make me a part of Your story?" God has shaped us so that when we receive an extraordinary generosity, we want to respond in kind. He has been so good to us, we want to give Him our best.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - When you look at Jesus for yourself from the pages of Scripture, what do you see? Can you recall the first time you saw Jesus for yourself? If so, please share.
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - What is filling your life? Whatever it is, you are leaking it and it will impact how other people remember you. Is it cynicism, bitterness, and doubt? Is it optimism, forgiveness, and hope? A combination of both?
- 3) **DO** - It is not too late to live a life that outlives you. When you die, how do you want to be remembered? Who do you want to remember you? What do you want them to remember you for? Live your life starting from the end. Take some time this week to answer these questions. Identify the areas in your life that deter you from this end and share with your group one specific step you will take toward this end.