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# Scott Kaczinski

## Music Ministries

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Quarterly Newsletter

OCTOBER 2023

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### 9th Annual Truth Singers

## TREATS & TRUNKS

Open to ALL Truth  
Singers & Special  
Needs Adults

(DeWitt E. Free Church parking lot  
1921 Elmwood Rd.)

Thursday  
October 26  
6:00-7:30 p.m.

A FREE HOT DOG  
MEAL WILL BE  
SERVED!

Would you consider decorating your trunk in a theme and providing 100 treats/goodies to pass out to our special needs friends? Let us know if you'd like to participate.

### *The Belief of the Thief*

Luke 23:39-43

39. One of the criminals who were hanged *there* was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" 40. But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" 41. And we indeed *are suffering* justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." 42. And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" 43. And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."

The amazing account of the thief on the cross is recorded in the book of *Luke*. In *Matthew* and *Mark* we see the two criminals on the cross cursing Jesus, but the book of *Luke* records the miracle of faith in one of the criminals. In *John 6:44*, Jesus says "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him." It is obvious that God had drawn the heart of one of the criminals, as just moments before he was cursing Jesus and then suddenly he rebukes the other criminal and in his last moments on earth, speaks just a few sentences that contain the Biblical truths of a truly regenerated heart.

Let's look at these 5 truths imperative to anyone who truly believes:

**The Fear of God** The first words that the thief speaks are to the other criminal who is also being crucified and is still screaming curses at Jesus. He says to him, "Do you not even fear God?" The thief starts where everyone who would believe

must start: that God is to be feared. In fact, it is wise to fear God. *Proverbs 1:7* says that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." And *Proverbs 9:10*, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." But today we don't hear much, if anything about fearing God. People don't talk about it, and pastors don't preach about fearing God. In *Romans 3:18*, Paul writes, "There is no fear of God before their eyes." And in *Proverbs 10:27*, "The fear of the Lord prolongs life." *Proverbs 14:27*, "The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, that one may avoid the snares of death." These are just a few. The Bible is full of verses of how God is to be feared.

**Facing Sin** Now we see in verse 41, that the thief recognizes and admits his sinfulness saying "we indeed are suffering justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds." In coming to faith in Christ, one *must* face his own sinfulness. Paul says in *Romans 3:23* that "*all* have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." *Romans 3:10*, Paul again speaking of mankind, "There is none righteous, not even one." And Jesus says in *Luke 5:31-32*, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Those who recognize their sin, like the thief on the cross, also recognize their need to repent.

**Fate** Again In verse 41, the thief is not just admitting that he and the other criminal are guilty, but he also recognizes that their punishment is deserved. *Romans 6:23* says, "The wages of sin is death..." We are separated from God because of our sin, and we have fully earned our payment for our deeds. The person who does not believe in God's only Son will die in his sin and be separated from God forever. It is his fate. (*1 John 5:11,12*) The sinner must come to God recognizing that he is wholly responsible for his own sins, and his punishment is rightly deserved.

**Faultless** Christ is the perfect spotless Lamb of God. The thief, after saying that he and the other criminal are guilty and deserve punishment for their deeds, states that Jesus is innocent. Verse 41..."but this man has done nothing wrong." *Hebrews 4:15* says that Christ was tempted in all things as we are yet *was without sin*. *2 Corinthians 5:21* says, "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." And *1 Peter 1:18,19* states, "We are redeemed with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ."

**Full-Surrender** The final words recorded of the dying thief are few but powerful...verse 42, "And he was saying, Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." This is a final and full surrender to Christ to be saved. It's the point that all those who would believe in Jesus must come to...to cry out to Christ, to cling to Him, our only hope, and the only way to be saved from our sin

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*"Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Music and  
Through the Teaching of God's Word and Discipleship of Others"*

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## Truth Singers Christmas!

Our Truth Singers Christmas Party will be Thursday, **December 14**, at 6:00 p.m. and will be here before we know it!

As usual, we collect donations/sponsorships in the **month of October** so we can buy Christmas presents for our special needs friends and their staff. If you would like to sponsor 1 or more Truth Singers for Christmas for **\$20** each, you can send your **sponsorship to us at P.O. Box 86, Delmar, IA, 52037**. Please make any checks payable to **SKMM** and mark **"TS Christmas"** in the memo. All gifts given to our ministry are tax-deductible.

We are thankful for your support and financial gifts given to this special Christmas event. You are invited to join us on Dec.14. You will be **BLESSED!**

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and its consequences. The thief's prayer is much like the prayer of the tax collector in *Luke 18:13*, who was beating his breast and saying, "God be merciful to me, the sinner!" This is a man throwing himself entirely at the mercy of God for the forgiveness of his sins.

And just one more point that could be added here, perhaps the most important which would be- **Future/Forgiven**. This thief, just mere moments from death, hears the most precious and wonderful words from Jesus in verse 43, "And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with me in Paradise." He will (as all believers will) spend eternity in heaven with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jesus said of the tax collector in *Luke 18:14*, who cried out for mercy, "I tell you this man went to his house justified." To be justified by God is to be "reckoned righteous." And we can only be "reckoned righteous" by the grace of God through believing in His Son Jesus Christ, who died and conquered death (by rising from the grave!) to save us from our sins...for all of us who would believe. —scott

*Ephesians 2:13- "But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ."*

## Join us for *Evangelism Training*

**When: Monday, October 16, 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

**Where: Our home, 401 Market St., Delmar**

**Presented By: Don and Jodi Green  
(Missionaries with CRU)**

**"Have you ever wanted to talk to someone about your faith in Christ but weren't sure how to get started in a natural, non-threatening way?"**

**We are offering 1-3 hour seminars on conversational evangelism. The goal is to share the good news of our wonderful savior, Jesus Christ, with those where we live, work, learn and play.**

**Evangelism isn't a task that we accomplish for God. It is an act of worship. He invites us to be a part of His eternal work. Through the process of telling others about Christ we come to know Him better."** *--Don Green*

*Don't miss out on this valuable training!  
Please let Scott know if you plan on  
attending or have any questions.*

**We are so thankful to our monthly partners and also to those who give extra or year-end, one-time special gifts in support of our ministry. We are humbled and blessed by your encouragement to us as we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and disciple others to walk in obedience to Him.**

**As usual, we will be sending out 2023 year-end contribution statements for tax purposes in our mid-January newsletter.**

**If you would like to receive our newsletter by email instead or no longer wish to be on our mailing list, please let us know.**

## **Scott Kaczinski Music Ministries, Inc.**

*Life Ministry: To the Elderly, To the Special Needs, To Pre-Marital Couples,  
To Students, Through Home Bible Studies & Discipleship*

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