ANNOUCEMENTS

- Youth Meeting immediately after service in the Elizabeth room.
- Join the Youths next Friday at 7pm in church for a worship night.
- If you have recently joined the church please scan the QR code below.
- If you're interested in joining any church department see Mimi.
- · Don't forget to bring your clean bottles and pick up bread after the service.





WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday - 10:00am (Morning Service: in-person and Youtube)

> Sunday - 7:00pm (Evening Service)

Monday - 7:00pm (Hour of Healing: over Zoom)

Tuesday - 7:00pm (Prayer Meeting: in-person and zoom)

> Wednesday - 10:00am (Deliverance Service)

Thursday - 7:00pm (Bible study: in-person and on zoom)

Zoom: Meeting Code: 5215784011 Password: 123456

ABOUT US



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VICTORY CHAPEL

Pastor Ademola and Iheoma Farinu

MAY 15TH,2022

Order of Service

Sunday School - 10:00am Main Service - 10:30am

THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN **CHURCH OF GOD**

Our Mission Statement To leverage with the Body of Christ in Victoria in proclaiming and promoting the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all spheres of the believer's life through sound biblical teachings, discipleship; and reaching our world with the love of Christ through community service.

THE MIRACLE OF MERCY

YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEAR DEATH

MEOMORY VERSE: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.' And Jesus replied, 'I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:42-43 (NLT)

INTRODUCTION:

God's mercy is something you'll need your entire life, especially when you've messed up and when you don't have what you need. You need God's mercy because of death. Death is inevitable. We all are going to die at some point. The mortality rate in the world is still 100 percent! Many people fear death, but God doesn't want you to. In fact, he shows you how to not be afraid of dying.

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (ESV): 13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord,[a] that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Luke 23 tells of a dying man who received God's mercy. You may remember the story: When Jesus went to the cross, he was hung between two criminals. The Bible says: "One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, 'So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you're at it!' But the other criminal protested,

'Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn't done anything wrong'" (Luke 23:39-41 NLT).

One criminal made fun of Jesus and acted as if death is the end of life—but he was wrong. Death is the start of eternity, either in heaven or hell.

The other criminal said, in effect, "Don't you realize the seriousness of your situation? You are about to go face-to-face with God in a matter of seconds, and here you are, putting down Jesus." Then he turned to Jesus and said, "Remember me when you come into your Kingdom" (Luke 23:42 NLT).

How did Jesus respond? "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43 NLT).

Now that's last-minute mercy! The thief realized his greatest need was forgiveness for sins, not relief from pain. And he knew he couldn't save himself. So he simply said, "Remember me." And Jesus said, in effect, "That's good enough." Jesus' response showed that he even had power over death.

When you accept the mercy of Jesus, you don't need to fear death—all because of what Jesus did on the cross.

DISCUSSION

- What does Jesus' immediate response to the criminal, "today you will be with me in paradise", say about his willingness to show you mercy?
- Jesus took time to love and show mercy, even while dying on a cross. Take time right now to thank God for his deep love for you and ask him for help recognizing opportunities to show mercy to others.

HYMN

BE THOU MY VISION

[1] Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

- [2] Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word; I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord. Born of thy love, thy child may I be, thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.
- [3] Be thou my buckler, my sword for the fight.

 Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
 thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r.

 Raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 - [4] Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise; thou mine inheritance, now and always. Thou and thou only, first in my heart, Ruler of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- **[5]** True Light of heaven, when vict'ry is won may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

