

THE MOST POWERFUL WORD EVER!!!!

Selected Old & New Testament Scriptures

What would you say is the most powerful word ever _____.

If you would ask the Apostle Paul what the most powerful word in any language was, he might read you the words of I Corinthians 13 and say it is love.

According to the Good Men Project the most powerful word in the English language is “redemption”.

- Redemption – salvation by sacrifice.
- Redemption – (**Theological definition**) Christ saving work viewed as an act of “buying back” sinners out of their bondage to sin and to satan through the payment of a ransom.
 - *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”* Mark 10:45

In our time together today, I want to challenge you to think that the most powerful word in any language may be the word forgiveness.

Let’s begin with the basic question, “*why do I need forgiveness, in particular God’s forgiveness?*”

- **Isaiah 59:2**

God could have said, “*if you can figure out a way to get to Me then I will accept you.*”

But it is part of God’s nature to forgive.

- **Psalm 86:5**
 - Good.
 - Ready to forgive.
 - Abundant in lovingkindness.
 - To **all** who call upon you.
- **Romans 10:13. (the Old Testament Prophet Joel)**
 - Whoever.
 - Call.
 - The Name of the Lord.
 - Will be saved. (**the guarantee is only as good as the one who gives it**).

- **Acts 4:12.**

See God has put everything in place for our “salvation”, but we must call out to Him asking Him for that “salvation”.

It is my hope today that you have made that call sometime in your life and if you have then this is what has happened.

- That wall that Isaiah says at one time was separating you from God has been destroyed.
 - **Isaiah 43:25.**
 - I even I.
 - Wipes out your transgressions.
 - For My own sake.
 - I will not remember your sins.

So, where do my sins go?

- **Psalm 103:12**
- **Micah 7:19**

What happens when I sin again?

- **I John 1:9.**
 - If we confess our sins
 - God is faithful and just.
 - To forgive our sins.
 - And cleanse us from ALL unrighteousness.

Jesus reminds us that we need to guard our hearts against maybe the most “unchrist like sin” unforgiveness of others.

- *“To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you.” C. S. Lewis*
- **Matthew 6:12.**
- This point is so important that Jesus pulls it out and teaches it again!
- **Matthew 6:14-15.**

As we get ready to come to the Lord’s Table there are 2 questions that we must ask and answer.

- For some this morning you need to call out to God for salvation (knock all the blocks down again).
- For others this morning you have a wall in your life called unforgiveness.

- *“Unforgiveness is choosing to stay trapped in a jail cell of bitterness, serving time for some else’s crime.” – Anonymous*