

Seven Words from the Cross—Compassion

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: John 19:17-27.
- B. Being near the cross spiritually has significance.
- C. There are distinctive about being near the cross.

II. Mary Magdalene: it is a place of redemption. (Luke 8:2)

- A. All who have not entrusted Christ as savior are indwelt by the spirit of disobedience. (Ephesians 2)
- B. Jesus redeems people from the power of Satan. (Acts 26:28)
- C. Mary Magdalene was redeemed from this power.
- D. After Mary was redeemed, she ministered to Jesus out of her means.

III. Salome, Mary's sister: it is a place of rebuke.

- A. Salome prayed a selfish prayer that her sons would be put on thrones.
- B. She misunderstood because Jesus reigned through the cross.

IV. Mary, the mother of Jesus: it is a place of great reward.

- A. Mary could have gotten Jesus off the cross by saying that what he was saying was not true.
- B. However, she believed Jesus was the Messiah, so she remained silent.
- C. Jesus gave Mary his closest disciple to love her. People who love us are the second greatest gift next to salvation.

V. The cross is a responsibility to us.

- A. We take Jesus' place on his earth.
- B. Many do not know the meaning of responsibility.
- C. Responsibility is our response to God's ability.
- D. We get near the cross by reaching out in faith.

Application questions:

1. How does Mary Magdalene's life illustrate the redemptive value of the cross?

2. In what areas does the cross rebuke you?

3. Who has God put in your life to love you? Why is it sometimes difficult to see God's work in this area?
