

## Written in Red: Words of Jesus

The Unforgivable Sin

Mark 3:20-30

### Introduction

*Everywhere the story of Jesus has been told, people have found forgiveness.*

*But one of the things Jesus said about forgiveness—actually unforgiveness—has been misunderstood and has been a source of fear and uncertainty for many. Which is the opposite of what he intended when he explained about our sin, God's forgiveness and a warning not to miss it.*

### Jesus on forgiveness

All sins and blasphemies are forgivable

- No matter how many
- No matter how awful
- No matter how often

Some notable examples

- Thief on the cross
- Zachaeus, a corrupt businessman
- Samaritan woman
- Woman caught in adultery
- Peter who denied Jesus
- Paul, a religious terrorist (Acts 26:9-11)

### Jesus on unforgiveness

One sin will never be forgiven

Blaspheming Holy Spirit

- I don't have any sin; I don't need a Savior
- I'll take charge of my own redemption
- I am beyond forgiveness; even God can't save me

#### Redemption

Father: Planned it

Son: Accomplished it

Holy Spirit: Applies it to us

What is not unforgivable

- Times of doubt or unbelief
- A blasphemous outburst
- Unconfessed sin
- Every other sin you can name

### Conclusion

*The only unforgivable sin is rejecting the grace of God, refusing to accept Jesus' death for your sin, turning down the Holy Spirit's effort to bring you to the Savior*

*That is the only sin that puts a person beyond forgiveness because they turn down God's only offer of forgiveness and redemption.*

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**Next Week:** Faith like a Child

Mark 10:13-16