



DISCUSSION GUIDE

OPENING UP



Share a time that you felt unworthy or unprepared for something that you were invited to do.

TEXT

Our Greatest Need | Isaiah 6:5-7 (ESV)

And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (ESV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

MESSAGE OUTLINE

Big Idea: God’s forgiveness compels us to go.

1. Receive God’s forgiveness (Isaiah 6:5-7)
2. Share God’s forgiveness with the world (Isaiah 6:8 and 2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

DISCUSSION



- How does seeing God on the throne remind us that we need forgiveness? When we lose sight of this and start to believe that we are sitting on the throne of our lives, what impact does this have on our relationship with God and others?
- God graciously provided cleansing and atonement [payment for sin] for Isaiah (Is. 6:6-7); he graciously provides atonement for us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus (2 Cor. 5:19). Tell about a time that you were changed by God's forgiveness or how his forgiveness has reshaped your life.
- How does fully understanding God's forgiveness for us prepare us to relate to those who don't yet trust in Jesus? Discuss how our stories of forgiveness can help us engage in God's mission with compassion and grace.
- Knowing that Jesus gave his life in order that God might forgive us, is God calling you to extend forgiveness to someone else right now?
- When we are reshaped by forgiveness, the old has gone and the new has come (2 Cor. 5:17). How does this empower you to move toward forgiveness in your relationships?

LIFE CHALLENGE



To whom can you demonstrate the heart of God this week by extending forgiveness? Find one way to practically love or serve someone who is difficult to love.

CLOSING PRAYER



Oh Lord our King, we acknowledge that you are on your throne and that you have gone to great lengths at great expense to yourself to extend forgiveness to us through Jesus. Please continue to change our hearts as we grasp this. Give us hearts of forgiveness toward others. Give us a passion to extend the forgiveness you offer to our family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors so that they might also be changed by your forgiveness. Amen.