

Forgiveness: Release. Reset. Renew

2 Chronicles 6:12-42; 7:11-22

October 10, 2021

At the dedication of the temple in Jerusalem, Solomon prays that God will always hear the prayers of the people and respond with mercy and forgiveness.

As God's people, we are to forgive as a response to his character of forgiveness. (Exodus 34:6, Ephesians 4:32)

The posture of prayer is humility and praise.

Steps of repentance from 2 Chronicles 6

- Acknowledging our sin.
- Turning away from that sin.
- Returning our focus to God.
- Pleading for forgiveness.
- Returning to his ways in obedience.
(Acts 3:18-19)

This forgiveness is available to everyone.
(Acts 11:18, Luke 17:3-4)

Forgiveness for those who repent is a promise from God.
(1 John 1:9)

Life Group Homework

1. READ Exodus 34:5-7. How does YHWH describe himself in these verses? Is this how you see Him? What surprises you or challenges you about this description?
2. READ 2 Chronicles 33:1-20 and 1 Kings 21-22:40. What are the similarities between Manasseh and Ahab? What are the differences? How do their actions following their cries for forgiveness show their true hearts?
3. READ 2 Chronicles 6:12-42. What types of circumstances does Solomon foresee that Israel will find themselves in, needing forgiveness? How are these similar or different from situations in which you seek forgiveness?
4. How often do you seek the LORD (YHWH) and plead for his forgiveness? How might an increased understanding of how often we need forgiveness change how we forgive?
5. What is your posture (physically and spiritually) when you approach God in prayer? Is kneeling with eyes toward him and arms spread out obsolete? What steps could you take to increase your humility and worship in prayer?