

"Forgiveness" | Isaiah 1:18-20
Sermon Discussion Questions
9/23/18

1. Pastor Jim began his message today by drawing our attention to how we feel about our relationships and circumstances. He asked us to consider if we have ever felt like something was "off" or "not quite right" in a relationship. What things came to mind as you considered that?
2. Where would you say your relationship with God is? Would you say things are thriving? Do things feel off? Share and explain what leads you one way or the other.
3. The issue affecting our relationship with God, according to Isaiah, is sin. Sin is what throws off our relationship with God. Pastor Jim explained the two aspects of sin mentioned in these verses. What is the difference between "red" and "scarlet" as it pertains to sin? What is the result of sin in our life as it relates to God and to us?
4. Sin always affects our relationship with God. The act and guilt of sin stands between us and God at some point in our relationship with Him. How can we see this truth in our own relationships? Think of examples where present and past hurts affect your earthly relationships, how are your relationships affected?
5. Isaiah 1:18 is talking about making things right, it deals with forgiveness. When discussing the forgiveness of our sins, there is actually a lot of truth packed into what that means. Pastor Jim listed 8 truths that go along with that forgiveness. Take sometime to reflect on your notes and discuss: which of the eight truths stuck out to you the most? Why? Which verse that was shared brings the most comfort? How do these truths line up with your previous views on forgiveness?
6. God wants to make things right, He is looking to have nothing get in the way of His relationship with you. He is offering forgiveness, extending the invitation. What should our response be? Go back to Isaiah 1:19-20 and discuss what was said about accepting forgiveness.
7. We are all called to obey, in obedience we can accept God's offer to make things right, repent and be forgiven. This is a wonderful invitation! As you close, praise God for the forgiveness He has granted us. Pray for those that are still rebelling against it, for their hearts to be softened and open to the invitation. Encourage each other and pray for each other to remain faithful to His call.