

Pitching Our Tent

Clearing the Ground Part 2:
Embracing and Living in Forgiveness



Clearing The Ground

1. Create In Me a Clean Heart
2. Embracing and Living in Forgiveness
3. Letting Go of Unforgiveness
4. Letting Go of Lies and Ungodly Beliefs
5. Dealing With Demonic Oppression



Where We Are

- We have focused singly on the person of Christ and our identity in Him for four years (Isaiah 53)
- We want to become a church inviting the hungry and the thirsty to come and experience the Kingdom of God (Isaiah 55)
- Today I believe we are in an Isaiah 54 season where we are pitching our tent to be bigger, better and bolder as a church



Making Our Tent Strong

- Guy ropes Your Prayer
- Fly sheet (Cover) Your Choice to Praise
- Pegs Your Patience
- Poles (Frame) You to Partake (serve)
- Pole sleeves Our Partnership
- Inner tent His and your Presence
- Ground sheet Provision
- Zips Your Peers (Invite)
- Bag Your Passion



Our Current phase in Pitching...

- Is Clearing the ground to ensure we build on the right foundations and are ready to receive what God wants for us
- It is vital we prepare our hearts, our lives, our services, our schedule and even this building to allow God to do what He will amongst us



Clearing the Ground

- **Part 2**
 - Embracing and Living in Forgiveness
- **Pretext – Gods heart is for us to know and love Him and for us to enjoy our relationship with Him and know and share the fullness of life that He gives.**



Ephesians 2:1-9

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions



Ephesians 2:1-9

it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. **10** For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.



Forgiveness Is...

- God's heart
- Essential
- A done deal
- Total
- Received by faith
- Fuels our faith



Forgiveness is God's Heart

- “But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy” (Eph 2:4)
- “The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.” (Psalm 145:8)
- Gracious in the beginning – warning, covering and dealing with Adam's sin
- “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him” (John 3:17)



Forgiveness is Essential

- We were dead... and deserving of wrath (Ephesians 2:1-3)
- We've all sinned and Sin = death (Romans 3:23)
 - It damages us
 - it destroys our intimacy with God and our opportunity to enjoy Him (our purpose)
 - It blocks us from receiving what He has for us
 - With out His forgiveness sin would mean total separation from Him



Forgiveness is a Done Deal

- In Christ it is done (Tetelestai)
- Before the cross Biblical words for forgiveness were predominantly verbs, after the cross they are predominantly nouns!
- “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness (*aphesis* – noun) of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.” (Luke 24:46-47)



Forgiveness is a Done Deal

- Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. (Psalm 51:7)
- For Christ died for sins once and for all, a good man on behalf of sinners, in order to lead you to God. He was put to death physically, but made alive spiritually (1 Peter 3:18 [GNT])
- In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace (Eph 1:7)



Forgiveness is Total

- He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (Heb 9:12-14)
- Whoever you are, whatever you've done
 - His forgiveness is bigger than your sin
 - His goodness is stronger than your failure



Forgiveness is Received by Faith

- We must embrace and open the gift
- For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. (Eph 2:9)
- If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1John 1:9)



Forgiveness Fuels our Faith

- For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (Eph2:10)
- Forgiveness is not the end goal
- Acts 3:19 "repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord"
- The next stage for us is giving the gift we have received: Forgiving others... letting go of unforgiveness (next week)



Forgiveness Fuels our Faith

- Embracing and living in forgiveness every day increases our ability to receive what God has for us and follow where He wants to lead us.



CARU DUW CARU POBL LOVE GOD LOVE PEOPLE

Today is a Day to
Clear some
more Ground

ELIM CHURCH
ABERYSTWYTH



**Is Today Your Day to
Embrace the
Forgiveness He Has
Already Afforded You?**

