



# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM MARCH 16/17 SERMON

If you missed the sermon, check out [biblechapel.org/sermons](http://biblechapel.org/sermons).

1. Review the Circle of Repentance. Where do you struggle the most in these connecting parts of repentance?

### THE CIRCLE OF REPENTANCE

Repentance begins with awareness.

Awareness moves us to godly sorrow.

Godly sorrow drives us to the Person of God.

The power of God allows us to change.

2. Read [Ezra 9:3-7](#). How did Ezra respond after he learned that Israel was living in sin? How should we respond when we become aware of sin in our life?
3. Read [2 Corinthians 7:9-10](#). What is the difference between worldly grief and godly grief? What are some examples of worldly grief?
4. Godly sorrow drove Israel to the Person of God. Read Ezra's prayer ([9:8-16](#)). Discuss the following attributes we find in the prayer:
  - God is just. He is the Judge of the earth. His judgment is always right.
  - God is gracious. He shows us his favor even when we knowingly sin against him. Read [Ps 51:1](#). What is the basis for David's prayer of repentance?
  - God's presence. Discuss the truth throughout Scripture that God will not leave us, even in our sins. What does this tell you about God?
  - God's steadfast love. This is the powerful Hebrew word (*chesed*) that describes the covenant that God makes with his children. Read [Romans 8:38-39](#). Discuss the practical significance of the truth Paul states in these verses.
5. God gives us the power to change. Read [Ezra 10:10-15](#). Note the people's response. Discuss the commitment to repent and the wisdom of making a prayerful plan to change.