



## Sermon Discussion Guide

*Ezra 3* | Kevin DeYoung

“When God Gives You a Do-Over”  
Sunday Morning, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

1. How is the Book of Ezra one big spiritual “do-over” for the people of Israel?
2. The altar was first on the list for the temple “building project.” What is the significance of that?
3. “It’s not a Christian do-over if it doesn’t start with repentance and forgiveness.”
  - a. How does the culture chase do-overs apart from Christ?
  - b. Have you seen this in any of your friends/family?
  - c. How do Christ-less do-overs prove themselves empty?<sup>2</sup>
4. “Christian do-overs look like **obedience**.” Do any biblical stories of repentance come to mind? How have you seen this kind of repentance in friends/family?
5. Repentance can look like a mix of emotions. How do we see this in Ezra 3? Can you relate? Have you noticed this in your own life?
6. Kevin asked, “Where is ‘worship’ in your list of priorities? What small bricks can you lay down in building a better foundation for your life?”
7. “Ezra 3:11 is the song of Jesus. And it can be your song too.” How do you find encouragement in the promise of Ezra 3:11 during this season of life?<sup>3</sup>

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Outline: A spiritual do-over looks like four things:

1. It looks like forgiveness.
2. It looks like obedience.
3. It looks like a mix of emotions.
4. It looks like worship.

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<sup>1</sup> SDGs are put together by the Small Groups Ministry to aid group discussion. They are available every week on the [small groups page](#) of the church website. Please send questions or feedback to [calebjohnson@christcovenant.org](mailto:calebjohnson@christcovenant.org).

Feel free to pivot to next Sunday’s sermon. Read next text aloud as a group, pointing out observations and connections.

<sup>2</sup> Remember that “by the book” answers while true, are often abstract. Challenge your people to answer from experience/observation with that “by the book” answer in hand.

<sup>3</sup> Ezra 3:11 “And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord, ‘For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel.’”