

## REPENTANCE

### MEMORY VERSE

I John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

In the previous study we looked at the sobering reality of man's sinful and depraved nature, and the truth that our sin separates us from a righteous and holy God.

1. What kind of people did Jesus come to earth for? (Luke 5:29-32.)

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2. What does God command all people to do? (Acts 17:30)

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3. How does the Bible define repentance? (Psalm 32:3-5, Proverbs 28:13, Ezekiel 18:21-23, 27-28)

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Can faith in Jesus ever be considered real or saving without true, tangible repentance in a person's life? (Matthew 3:2,8, 4:17, Mark 1:15, 6:12-13, Luke 13:3-5, 24:46-47, Acts 2:37-38, 26:19-20, Hebrews 6:1-2 and II Peter 3:9)

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5. In repentance, what else must we be willing to do? (Ezekiel 33:15)

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6. When Jesus said to Zacchaeus that He would come to his house, what was Zacchaeus' response that showed his repentant heart? (Luke 19:1-8)

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7. What did Jesus say to Zacchaeus? (Luke 19:9-10)

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8. What conditions does God set for receiving us and being a Father to us? (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)

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These conditions are demonstrated very clearly in the parable of the lost son.

9. What had the lost son done? (Luke 15:11-16)

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10. What did the lost son decide to do when he realized his state? (Luke 15:17-19)

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Notice that there had to be a decision on his part to come out from the world and be separate and go to his father's house.

11. What three things does James say about those who have friendship with the ways of the world? (James 4:4)

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

12. What does John say about anyone who loves the ways of the world? (1 John 2:15)

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13. As soon as the lost son made the decision in his heart to separate himself from the unclean thing and go to his father to confess his sin, what did the father do? (Luke 15:20)

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14. The son was hoping only to be allowed to become a hired servant of the father, yet what did the father make him? (Luke 15:22-24)

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Repentance is turning away from all that the Bible calls sin and turning to God. Repentance is far more than making resolutions with good intentions. Repentance deals with your very nature. It is the only way to change your spiritual condition from a state of sin and death to a state of forgiveness and life. Although Jesus came to redeem sinners and God draws us to repentance by His kindness (see Romans 2:4), remember that the choice to repent is always yours.

Since the root of all sin is independence from God, the initial decision you must make to change your spiritual condition is to completely surrender your life to Christ in a love relationship. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me." Without the total surrender of your life to Christ, repentance for other areas of sin will be meaningless and ineffective. Many try to repent for individual sins without surrendering their lives to Christ. This only leads to frustration and discouragement.

15. Define worldly sorrow and godly sorrow. Explain what each of them lead to. (II Corinthians 7: 9-10) \_\_\_\_\_

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Psalm 51, David's prayer of repentance, is a beautiful example of prayer from a heart of godly sorrow. Take time to read this entire chapter and make David's prayer your own. "Create in me a clean heart..."

16. When you confess your sins to God and truly repent, what will He do? (Isaiah 1: 18, Psalm 81:13-16 and I John 1:9)

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17. What happens to us when we repent and turn our lives over to Christ? (II Corinthians 5:17)

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_