

Daily Devotional



David Welsh | “Be Repentant” | Jan. 16 . 17 | Luke 3:7-14; 2 Cor. 7:9-10

■ day one

John the Baptist reminds us that we are sinners having committed personal sin and in need of a Savior! How did you come to understand sin in your own life (do not dwell on your sin or share the details of your sin, but your understanding of your need for the result of God's forgiveness)? What brought you to this awareness and what was the result? Sin produces sorrow. What are the two types of sorrow Paul describes in 2 Cor. 7:9-10 and what is the result of each?

■ day two

The missing ingredient in a legalistic faith and a ‘cheap’ and easy faith is repentance! Have you struggled with either a legalistic faith or a cheap faith in your life? Why is it so easy to continue in this kind of lifestyle? Look at the scriptures above from 2 Cor. 7:9-10. Read these verses slowly in several different translations. What is Paul trying to say or compare? What kind of sorrow did you experience as a result of your sin? What was the result? A real change or just regret for what you did?

■ day three

Repentance is a change of heart, a change of mind, a change of attitude, a change of vocabulary; a complete change of lifestyle! Do these things happen all at once? Is repentance an action or event or is it part of a sequence or process that we are to be involved in for the rest of our lives? Asking Jesus to come into our heart and forgive our sins results in salvation. The next part of this process is what the scriptures refer to as sanctification. How should this process work in the life of a Christian? Read Philippians 2:12-16. What does Paul mean when he says “work out your salvation”?

■ day four

God's holiness and our personal sin produce a sense of guilt, but the knowledge that Jesus died for us is the cure for such guilt. Does a Christian have a sin nature? Find a scripture to support your answer. Can a Christian sin? What should a Christian do when he thinks he has sinned? Why is the Holy Spirit so important in seeking repentance in our lives? Read Titus 3:5. What is the Holy Spirit's role in our life? Are you sensitive to the Spirit? Are you experiencing freedom from sin and guilt and growing stronger or continually struggling over the same sin? Take a minute to accept God's grace, forgiveness and love for you.

■ day five

We cannot embrace Christ and receive his forgiveness without being delivered from our sins, without changing our lives; which is proof of sincere repentance. Why do you think it is so easy for us to put on a "good face" and think that we can "hide" our sins? What are the excuses you give God for your sins? Are you ready to be sincere in your seeking repentance? What needs to change in your life? Read out loud the encouraging words of Paul in Philippians 3:7-14 and see how he lived out repentance in his own life. Take some time now to be still and let God deal with your heart.

■ a word from the writers

This daily devotional and a weekly bible study for Life Groups that coincides with the current sermon is also available on the church website: ccc.org. We loved to hear your comments or suggestions. Email the writing team at: lampr@ccc.org.