BALLARAT & CENTRAL HIGHLANDS
CHURCH OF CHRIST

FIRST PRINCIPLES | STUDY 7 OF 11

Repentance

A self-guided Bible study. Read the passages for yourself, then write down your own answers, questions and conclusions.

This week

Day 1: What motivates change?

Day 2: What does repentance produce?

Day 3: Repentance and fruit

Day 4: Turning

Day 5: Feeling bad or changing?

Day 6: A gift from God

Day 7: Putting it together

DAY 1

What motivates change?

Read

- 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 - Read NIV on YouVersion

Think about it

1. What does Christ's love compel people to do?
2. Who should a person live for?
3. What is described as new?
4. What does reconciliation mean?

For yourself

What currently motivates my choices? What might change if Christ's love became my reason for how I live?

DAY 2

What does repentance produce?

Read

- Luke 3:7-14 - Read NIV on YouVersion

Think about it

1. What does John demand?

2. What does he mean by 'fruit'?

3. What practical changes does he suggest?

4. What does this tell you about repentance?

For yourself

What practical change would show repentance in my own circumstances? What first step could I take?

DAY 3

Repentance and fruit

Read

- Luke 13:1-9 - Read NIV on YouVersion

Think about it

1. What warning does Jesus repeat?
2. What does the fig-tree story add?
3. Why is fruit important?
4. What might fruit look like in a changed life?

For yourself

Where would I hope to see fruit in my life? What needs attention for that change to begin?

DAY 4

Turning

Read

- Acts 26:15-21 - Read NIV on YouVersion

Think about it

1. What mission does Jesus give Paul?

2. What contrasts do you notice - darkness/light, Satan/God?

3. What does 'turn' involve?

4. What does Paul say should demonstrate repentance?

For yourself

What do I need to turn from, and what would turning towards God look like in that area?

DAY 5

Feeling bad or changing?

Read

- 2 Corinthians 7:8-11 - Read NIV on YouVersion

Think about it

1. What two kinds of sorrow does Paul describe?

2. How are their results different?

3. What does godly sorrow produce?

4. Why isn't feeling guilty necessarily the same as repenting?

For yourself

When I feel sorry for wrongdoing, what usually follows? What would help me move from regret to a changed response?

DAY 6

A gift from God

Read

- 2 Timothy 2:24-26 - Read NIV on YouVersion

Think about it

1. Who grants repentance?

2. What does repentance lead to?

3. What picture of captivity and freedom appears here?

For yourself

Where do I need God's help to change? How could I ask for that help and respond to it?

DAY 7

Putting it together

Read

- Acts 2:36-38 - Read NIV on YouVersion

Look back

1. Based on this week's passages, how would you define repentance?
2. How is it different from regret?
3. What produces it?
4. What should follow it?
5. Is there anything you believe you personally need to turn from or turn towards?

For yourself

What next step would put my understanding of repentance into practice? What support might help me follow through?