

Plan of Salvation Step 3: Repent

Key Scripture: Luke 13:3

Lesson Objective

To understand that repentance is a necessary step in accepting Christ, recognizing that without repentance, salvation cannot be obtained.

Warm-Up Questions

1. What does it mean to **repent** in everyday life?
 2. Why do you think God requires repentance as part of our salvation?
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Scripture Focus

Luke 13:3 (KJV)

"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Strongs Definition

The word **Repent** in Greek is **metanoéo**

Phonetic Pronunciation: meh-tah-no-EH-oh

- (*meh*) – sounds like "meh" in English
- (*tah*) – sounds like "tah" (rhyming with "spa")
- (*no*) – sounds like "no" in English
- (*EH*) – sounds like "eh" (as in "met")
- (*oh*) – sounds like "oh" (as in "go")

(Strong's G3340), which means:

- To change one's mind
- To think differently
- To feel remorse for sin and turn from it

Repentance is more than just feeling sorry; it is a complete change of heart, mind, and actions. It means turning away from sin and turning toward God, transforming both the way you think and the way you live to align with His Word.

Matthew Henry Commentary on Luke 13:3

Matthew Henry writes that Christ uses this passage to teach that **all are guilty before God**. The tragedies of life should not make us judge others but should instead remind us of our own need to repent. No matter the sin, without repentance, **all will perish**.

Additional Scriptures on Repentance

- **Isaiah 55:7**
 - **KJV** " Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."
 - **AMP** "Let the wicked leave (behind) his way; And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion (mercy) on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon."
 - **Proverbs 28:13**
 - **KJV** " He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."
 - **AMP** "He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, But whoever confesses and turns away from his sins will find compassion and mercy."
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Examples of Those Who Repented

Name	Scripture	Outcome
David	Psalms 51	Forgiven after adultery & murder
Prodigal Son	Luke 15:11-24	Restored by his father
Ninevites	Jonah 3:5-10	City spared from destruction

Why Repentance Is Necessary

1. It shows that we **acknowledge our sin**. (Psalm 32:5; Psalm 51: 3-5)
2. It allows God to **forgive and cleanse us** (1 John 1:9; 1 John 2, 1-2)
3. It prepares our hearts to **accept Jesus as Lord and Savior**. (Psalm 51:10; Romans 12:2, John 3:36; Matthew 10:32-33)
4. It is the **only way to avoid eternal separation from God**. (II Peter 3:9; Acts 3:19; Acts 17:30-31)

Discussion Questions

1. What is the difference between being **sorry for sin** and **repenting from sin**?
2. Why does God require both **faith and repentance** for salvation?
3. How does repentance bring us closer to God?
4. Are there any areas in your life where God is calling you to repent today?

Key Point

Repentance is not just saying "I'm sorry" — it's a **complete turnaround** from sin to God. Without repentance, salvation is not possible.

Closing Scripture

Isaiah 1:18

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow..."

Challenge for the Week

Take a moment for genuine self-reflection and assess your actions, thoughts, and habits. Are they in full alignment with God's Word? If you identify areas where you're falling short, take intentional steps to realign yourself with His truth. Remember, repentance is not only necessary for accepting Christ as Savior, but it is also essential for believers who may find themselves out of alignment with God's Word. This ongoing process of self-examination helps us grow closer to God and live according to His will.

Lamentations 3:40 KJV - (40) Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.