

3. Have you experienced Godly sorrow/true repentance from your sin?

### Day Four

Read Acts 16:25-34

1. This passage tells the story of someone who was suddenly and dramatically converted. How was this change demonstrated?

2. In one sense, repentance is a one time 180° turnaround. It's a decision to live in, for, and with the LORD, to turn from sin and to follow Jesus. Have you experienced repentance in this way?

### Day Five

Read Ephesians 4:17-32

1. Repentance is not only a one time turnaround, but also a moment by moment turning from sin and choosing to live for Jesus. What are you doing to foster this kind of daily repentance?

2. In this passage, what are some examples of “putting off the old” and “putting on the new?” Pick one to work on this week.

## Fruits of Repentance

Luke 3:1-15

### A. Understand the Background Of The Message.

1. The Historical Context is carefully described by Luke.

*“In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar-- when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene-- during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert.”*  
Luke 3:1-2

2. John a Relative of Jesus, is sent to Prepare the Way.

*“And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous-- to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”* Luke 1:17

3. This is the Fulfillment of Prophecy.

*“As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: ‘A voice of one calling in the desert, Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God's salvation.’”*  
Luke 3:4-6

### B. Hear The Message of John.

1. It's a Call to Repentance - a 180° turnaround.

*“He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.”* Luke 3:3  
*“In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.’”* Matthew 3:1-2

2. True repentance will be demonstrated in a Changed Life.

*“But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our father. I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.’”* Luke 3:7-9

3. This is especially seen in how you Handle Possessions.

*“What should we do then?” the crowd asked. John answered, “The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same.” Tax collectors also came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?” “Don't collect any more than you are required to,” he told them. 1 Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely-- be content with your pay.”*  
Luke 3:10-14

## C. Respond With True Repentance.

*“Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.”*  
2 Corinthians 7:10

### 1. Repentance is a One Time Decision.

*“The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They replied, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved-- you and your household.’ Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God-- he and his whole family.”*  
Acts 16:29-34

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”*  
2Corinthians 5:17

### 2. Repentance is also a moment by moment

#### Putting Off the old and Putting On the new.

*“You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”*  
Ephesians 4:20-24

## Heidelberg Catechism

88. Q. What is involved in genuine repentance or conversion?

A. Two things:

The dying-away of the old self, and the coming-to-life of the new.

89. Q. What is the dying-away of the old self?

A. It is to be genuinely sorry for sin, to hate it more and more, and to run away from it.

90. Q. What is the coming-to-life of the new self?

A. It is wholehearted joy in GOD through Christ and a delight to do every kind of good as GOD wants us to.

**“Our LORD and Master Jesus Christ... willed that the Whole Life of Believers should be repentance.”**

**Martin Luther**

Commit yourself to spending time with GOD and His Word on at least five days this week. Read the Bible passage(s) listed.

Ask GOD for understanding. Reflect on the verses you read and write down your answers to the question(s). Pray that GOD will guide you to walk in His Word.

### Day One

Read Luke 1:5-25

1. What was John sent by GOD to do?
2. What do you think it means “to make ready a people prepared for the LORD?”

### Day Two

Read Luke 3:1-15

1. How would you summarize John’s message?
2. How did the people respond? How will you respond?

### Day Three

Read 2 Corinthians 7:8-13a

1. What is the difference between Godly sorrow and worldly sorrow?
2. What does Godly sorrow lead to?