

About Face

Part Three - Repentance

- **Following Jesus begins with an about face.**

Acts 2:38

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins."

Things to Know About Repentance

1. Repentance begins with sorrow.

2 Corinthians 7:10

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2. Repentance leads to confession.

1 John 1:9

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

Isaiah 5:20

What sorrow for those who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter.

2 Corinthians 4:4

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe.

3. Repentance leads to thinking differently.

Romans 12:2

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Jude 1:23

Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. Show mercy to still others, but do so with great caution, hating the sins that contaminate their lives.

4. Repentance leads to restitution.

Matthew 3:8

Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God.

Luke 19:8

Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!"

5. Repentance leads to change.**2 Corinthians 7:11**

See what God did with this sadness of yours: how earnest it has made you, how eager to prove your innocence! Such indignation, such alarm, such feelings, such devotion, such readiness to punish wrongdoing!

- **Doing an about face involves the mind, the heart, and the body.**

2 Timothy 2:25

Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth.

Luke 15:17-19

"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.'"

- **An about face is never easy, and at some point, it is impossible.**

Hebrews 3:15

"Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled."