

## Repentance

[Mark 1:14-15](#)

[Acts 5:29-31](#)

[Luke 5:27-32](#)

[Luke 13:1-5](#)

[Luke 15:1-10](#)

You are not saved by repentance. Repentance describes what you go through as you are being saved. During the process of repentance you receive a change of mind and behavior.

Repentance is not about your feelings. Repentance is a change of your mind that includes a change in your life. You may feel sorry when you repent or as you repent, but the sorrow that goes with repentance also leads to a changed life. In the New Testament after Judas betrayed Jesus, he was sorry. Obviously, his sorrow was limited to being sorry that things did not work out as planned. His sorrow did not lead to a new life. Instead of allowing repentance to do its work in his life, Judas went and killed himself. Real repentance is not about how you feel. Real repentance leads to a new life.

When you sin you may feel bad about what you have done but that feeling is not repentance. Repentance goes deeper than how you feel after you sin. When your sorrow leads to a change in your attitude and action you are into real repentance. Anything less than that is not real repentance.

What does it mean to repent? It means to turn away from the madness of sin and turn to God's way of living. It is a common mistake for Christians to think of repentance as "never sinning ever again". Satan will torment you with the thoughts that, "If you had really repented, you wouldn't have done it again". Repentance is a change of how you think. Repentance is putting your trust in God to save you instead of in yourself for salvation. Repentance is about trusting God to be who He is (your Savior) and to do what He does (forgive all of your sins). Repentance is not a way of getting God to do what He has already done – He has saved your life. As a result of understanding what He has already done for you, accept His offer of a new direction in life. Your turn around. You repent.

You cannot repent on your own. Real repentance is a gift that is given to you by God. Through the Holy Spirit working in your life, He causes you to understand the destruction of your sins and the delight of His ways. Ask Him today to lead you into repentance. Ask Him to help you love Him more. Ask Him to live in your heart and help you make every decision in life. Surrender your life to Him now. He will lead you into the new life of freedom that comes with repentance.