

Sorry, Not Sorry

Earlier this year, as we began to study the life of Christ, we were reminded of John's ministry and message, as recorded in Luke 3:1-9. He was clearing the path so no obstacle stood between the individual and Jesus. Before we delve into what repentance entails, we want to remind ourselves of its purpose and direction. Repentance is ultimately about moving closer to God and away from the world. You think it's about a particular thing or person, but there's someone bigger in the background. So, something to consider while we move forward: *where are you headed?*

- **Taking Ownership:** 2 Samuel 12:13 vs 1 Samuel 15:24
 - Culpability:
 - I Have Sinned: 1 Samuel 13:12 (David); 1 Samuel 15:24; 13:12 (Saul).
 - David didn't complicate the matter. Saul always made excuses.
- **Repentance:** 2 Cor. 7:5-12
 - Changed Mind:
 - *Broken Hearts:* Psalm 51:1-17 (David).
 - There's no point in worship if our hearts haven't changed.
 - Changed Behavior:
 - *Sackcloth:* 1 Chronicles 21:16 (David); Jonah 3:5-10 (Nineveh).
 - Sometimes, our actions don't align with our words. We go about our lives as though nothing has happened.
 - *Longevity:* 1 Kings 21:25-29 (Ahab)
 - Even Ahab repented, but it was short-lived.
- **Cleansed:** 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
 - Sin:
 - *You Know:* John 13:1-11 (The Apostles).
 - Judas knew what he was doing.
 - *Forgiveness:* Matthew 27:3-5 (Judas); John 21:15-19 (Peter).
 - Jesus didn't want Judas to die because of his sin. Jesus isn't looking to crush us, which is what a broken spirit does.
 - Proverbs 15:13 A glad heart makes a cheerful face, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed.
 - Psalms 34: God is for you, brethren