

Resolved to Walk in Repentance

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, January 23, 2022; Psalm 51:1-19; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme – The Bible teaches us that it's the kindness of God that leads a person to repentance, but that is never an isolated event. Instead, the life of a believer is marked by the on-going process of turning from sin and walking in righteousness to the glory of God.

I. The Need For Repentance – Read Acts 17:22-34

- A. How would you define repentance? What are the critical components of repentance?
- B. How does Paul's interaction with the men of Athens at the Areopagus help you recognize that all people everywhere, in every generation, must repent?
- C. After reading Matt. 3:7-10, how does John the Baptist help you understand that repentance is not a once and done event, but an on-going process of turning from sin to righteousness?
- D. How does the gospel empower and enable you to turn from wickedness and to walk in righteousness? Why is your identity in Christ critical to this process (Romans 6:1-13)?

II. The Heart of Repentance – Read Psalm 51:1-19

- A. What is the story behind Psalm 51? If you're unsure, review 2 Samuel 11:1-12:23.
- B. Why does David appeal to God's steadfast love and mercy? How does this demonstrate David's understanding that he cannot fix himself? What examples are given in Psalm 51?
- C. What imagery of cleansing or restoration do you appreciate most in Psalm 51? How does it work that we're washed whiter than snow (v.7); and yet, we still sin on a daily basis?
- D. According to verses 13-15, what is the result of David having the joy of God's salvation restored? Do you find this to be true? Does greater forgiveness lead to great proclamation?

III. The On-Going Work of Repentance – Read John 15:7-11

- A. How is Nathan's role in David's life a helpful model for us in the life of the church? In what ways do you find accountability helpful, encouraging and challenging?
- B. What examples do you have of experiencing joy as a result of walking in obedience? How about the guilt and shame and discouragement of walking in disobedience?
- C. Where would you like to grow in the on-going work of repentance? Taking your sin more serious? Turning to God quicker? Praying more deliberately? Being more actively obedient?