

Repentance Required

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, May 26, 2024; 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. 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. 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. 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?