



Favored 1 Ministry

“Growing Together in God’s Word”



The Favored 1 Magazine

This week’s featured study

Volume 1 | Issue 11

Published September 18, 2026

Repentance — Turning Toward God

Acts 3:19 (KJV)

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...”

Favored 1 Ministry | Growing Together in God's Word | www.favored1ministry.com

© 2026 – Favored 1 Ministry

Welcome to Issue 11

Dear Friends,

Last week, we went back to the foundation and talked about Understanding Salvation.

We learned that salvation is God's gift, that we cannot save ourselves through our own works, and that salvation is found through Jesus Christ.

But understanding salvation also causes us to ask an important question:

What does God want us to do when we recognize our need for Him?

The Bible gives us an answer:

Repent.

Repentance is more than feeling bad about something we've done. It involves recognizing that we have gone the wrong way and turning toward God.

This week, we're going to look at what Scripture teaches us about repentance, why it matters, and what it looks like when repentance becomes part of our walk with Christ.

My prayer is that this study will help us examine our hearts honestly and understand that when God calls us to repent, He isn't pushing us away.

He is calling us back to Him.

Growing Together in God's Word In Christ,

Johan

Favored 1 Ministry

From My Heart

There was a time in my life when I knew about God, I knew Scripture, and I knew many of the things the Bible taught. But knowing what the Bible says and actually allowing God's Word to change the way we live are two different things. I could read Scripture and understand what it was saying, but there were still things in my life that I wasn't willing to let go of. That's when I began to understand something about repentance. Repentance isn't just saying, "I'm sorry." It's recognizing that we've been going in the wrong direction and deciding that we need to turn around and go God's way.

There were things I had to face within myself. I had to stop making excuses and start being honest with God. There's a conviction that overcomes you from the Holy Spirit that compels you to repent. I had to understand that if I wanted a real relationship with Jesus, I couldn't continue holding on to the very things He was asking me to surrender. Repentance became more than a word I read in the Bible. It became something I needed to understand personally. And I've learned that God doesn't ask us to repent because He wants to condemn us. He calls us to repentance because He wants us to turn toward Him. Sometimes turning toward God means admitting that we've been wrong. Sometimes it means letting go of something we've held onto for years. Sometimes it means changing the direction we're going. But whatever it looks like, repentance begins with a heart that is willing to say:

"Lord, I don't want to keep going my way. I want to go Your way."

I also learned that there is a difference between feeling guilty and being condemned. When I have sinned, there is a certain amount of guilt that needs to happen. That guilt lets me know that the Holy Spirit is convicting me and showing me that what I have done isn't right.

When that happens, I have to make a choice. I can ignore that conviction, make excuses, or I can repent. I can admit that I was wrong, ask God to forgive me, and turn away from what I did.

Then I have to move on.

I hope I don't do it again, but if I continue looking backward at my failure after I've truly repented, I'm allowing guilt to keep me in a place God never intended me to stay.

Repentance means I turn back toward God and keep walking with Him.

Weekly Bible Study

Repentance — Turning Toward God

Introduction

Acts 3:19–20 (KJV)

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:”

Four Study Points

1. Recognizing When We Have Gone the Wrong Way

Romans 3:23 (KJV)

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”

Repentance begins with recognizing our need for God.

We cannot turn from something we refuse to acknowledge.

The Bible tells us that all have sinned. That means repentance isn't just something for someone who has committed a particular kind of sin.

Every one of us needs God's forgiveness.

The first step is being honest about where we are.

We shouldn't compare ourselves to someone else and say, “*At least I'm not as bad as they are.*”

Our standard isn't another person.

Our standard is God's Word.

When God's Word reveals something in our lives that needs to change, we should allow Him to show us what needs to be surrendered.

2. Repentance Is More Than Saying “I'm Sorry”

2 Corinthians 7:10 (KJV)

“For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.”

There is a difference between being sorry because we got caught and having a heart that genuinely wants to change.

Godly sorrow leads us toward repentance.

When we understand that our sin separates us from God's will, our response shouldn't simply be:
"I feel bad about what I did."

It should become:

"I need to turn from this and turn toward God."

Repentance involves the heart, but it also affects the direction of our lives.

We don't repent because we believe we can earn salvation through our actions.

We repent because we recognize our need for God and desire to walk according to His will.

3. Turning From Our Old Way

Isaiah 55:7 (KJV)

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Notice the words Scripture uses:

Forsake his way.

Forsake his thoughts.

Return unto the LORD.

Repentance involves a change in direction.

There may be habits, attitudes, thoughts, relationships, or behaviors that God reveals need to change.

That doesn't mean the Christian life becomes perfect overnight.

It means our direction changes.

Instead of continuing to run away from God, we begin turning toward Him.

Instead of defending our old ways, we become willing to allow God to change us.

And look at the promise in this verse:

"He will have mercy upon him."

God's call to repentance is not a call without hope.

There is mercy waiting when we turn toward Him.

4. Repentance Brings Us Closer to God

James 4:8 (KJV)

"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

Repentance isn't about simply walking away from sin.

It is also about drawing closer to God.

When we turn away from our old direction, we need somewhere to turn.

And that place is toward the Lord.

This is where repentance becomes part of an ongoing relationship with Jesus.

We continue allowing God's Word to examine our hearts.

We continue listening when the Holy Spirit convicts us.

We continue bringing our failures to God.

And we continue moving closer to Him.

Repentance isn't meant to leave us living in guilt.

It is meant to turn our hearts back toward the One who can forgive, restore, and lead us.

Reflection Questions

Take some time this week and honestly consider:

1. Is there anything in my life that God has been asking me to turn away from?
 2. Am I truly willing to surrender my way and follow God's way?
 3. Do I see repentance as condemnation, or as God's invitation to return to Him?
 4. What would drawing closer to God look like in my life this week?
-
-

This Week's Challenge

The Turnaround Challenge

This week, don't just read about repentance. Practice examining your heart.

Set aside some quiet time with God and ask Him to reveal anything in your life that needs to change. Then pray honestly:

“Lord, show me what needs to change, and give me the strength to turn toward You.”

When God reveals something, don't make excuses. Bring it to Him. Ask for forgiveness.

Surrender it. And take the next step toward Him. One step at a time.

Closing Encouragement

Keep Turning Toward God

Repentance isn't about looking backward forever.

It's about turning around and moving toward God.

There may be things in your past that you wish you could change.

There may be decisions you regret.

There may even be things you are ashamed to admit.

But your past does not have to determine the direction of your future.

God's Word calls us to repent, and His Word also tells us about His mercy.

So if God is showing you something that needs to change, don't run from Him.

Run toward Him.

Don't let shame convince you that you are too far away.

Don't let pride keep you from admitting that you need Him.

And don't convince yourself that tomorrow is a better day to surrender than today.

Turn toward God today.

He is still calling.

Closing Scripture

Proverbs 28:13 (KJV)

“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”

Growing Together in God’s Word.

Volume 1 | Issue 11