

LESSON 04

What Repentance Actually Means

1: Sin and Salvation

Executive Summary

To receive God's salvation, we must respond in repentance and faith. Repentance is not merely feeling sorry for sin — it means to change one's mind and direction, a decisive turning from sin toward God. It goes hand-in-hand with trusting Christ alone to save us, and without it there is no forgiveness.

Key Terms

Repentance	A Spirit-enabled change of mind and direction: turning from sin and toward God with faith-filled obedience.
Faith	Trusting God's Word and relying on Christ rather than self, merit, feeling, or religious performance.
Confession	Openly agreeing with God about sin and truth, including acknowledging Jesus Christ as Lord.
Conversion	God's saving work in which a sinner turns from sin to Christ through repentance and faith.

Key Verses

English Standard Version (ESV)

Acts 3:19

19 Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,

Luke 13:3

3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

Romans 10:9-10

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

John 1:12

12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

Application Questions

1. After reading Acts 3:19 and Luke 13:3, how would you describe repentance in your own words?

2. What is the difference between feeling sorry for sin and truly turning away from it?

3. Is there a sin or wrong belief that God is calling you to turn from?

4. What practical choice could show that you are turning toward God this week?
