

Lesson 2

Repentance from Sin

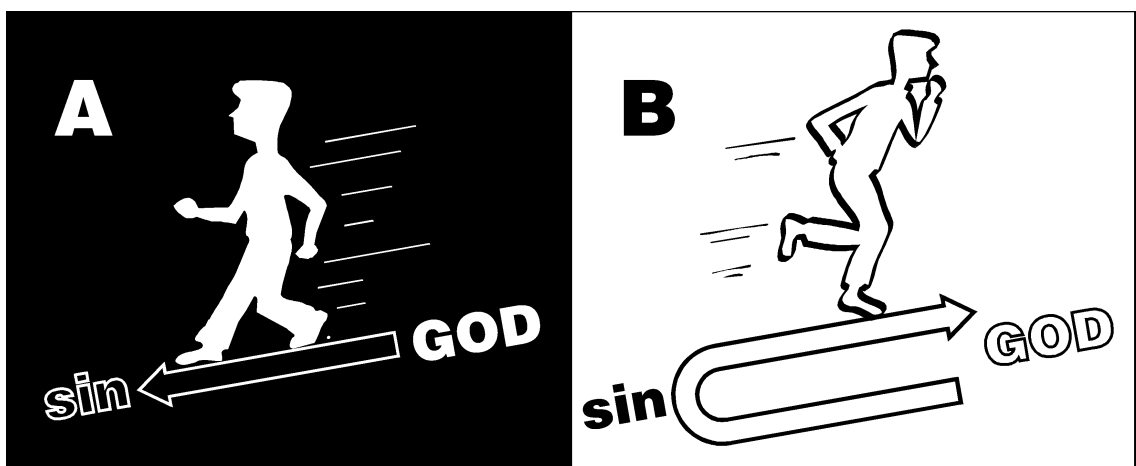
1. In the first lesson you saw that because you received the Lord Jesus Christ and believed in him you became a _____ of _____.
2. One of the first things that Jesus said to people was:

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

(Matthew 4:17)

The basic meaning of “repentance” is a complete change of mind and direction. It is turning away from sin to God. In other words, becoming a child of God really amounts to a complete right about turn in our lives.

Which of the men shown below (A or B) has truly repented? _____



3. We can see from the above pictures that to repent means that we turn away from our _____ and towards _____.

4. Now what is sin? The Bible says:

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”
(Romans 3:23)

So sin is anything that falls _____ of God’s perfect standard for us.

5. Suppose competitors in the high jump have to clear 1.50 metres to qualify. Which of the following will NOT qualify. (You may want to tick more than one)

- a. The high jumper who can’t clear 1.20 metres and so crashes into the bar.
- b. The man who gives up and withdraws without even trying.
- c. The high jumper who can clear 1.49 metres but just knocks the bar off at 1.50 metres.

6. You see, it doesn’t matter if the high jumper nearly clears the bar — if he knocks it down he falls short of the standard. If sin is falling short of God’s perfect standard, which of the following are sinners? (Tick them)

- a. A murderer.
- b. A thief.
- c. A decent fellow who is just a bit selfish now and again.

7. Sin is like a plague: the smallest germ can spread and do great harm. So when Jesus calls us to turn away from our sins he doesn’t only mean things like murder or stealing — but everything that will spoil our character and cause us to fall short of God’s perfect standard for us. Which of the following are sins we should turn away from? Tick more than one.

- a. Loving God and his ways.
- b. Being selfish.

continues...

- c. Telling and listening to dirty stories.
 - d. Quarrelling.
 - e. Obeying God in all things.
 - f. Being dishonest in small ways.
8. So to repent means to accept that sin is serious and to turn from it to God. It is a complete right about turn. What kind of a change is this?
- a. A change of clothing.
 - b. A change in your political views.
 - c. A total change of mind towards sin and God.

9. As we have seen, in the Bible this change of mind is called “repentance”. Although it is a common enough word, the real meaning of repentance is not very well understood today. For this reason, in this lesson we will study its true meaning in depth.

In the first place, we already know that repentance means a change of mind _____.

10. The Bible teaches something else about repentance:

“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.”

(Matthew 3:8)

According to this teaching, what is the evidence of a real change of mind? (Tick one)

- a. A changed life.
 - b. To continue to treat sin as unimportant.
 - c. No great difference.
11. Consider the following examples:
- BERT takes what does not belong to him. He says he believes in Jesus, and although he knows that it is wrong to steal and is

sorry for his weakness, he just keeps on doing it.

PETE was always causing trouble with his neighbours, but when he believed in Jesus he was sorry about this and began to do everything he could to live in peace and harmony with them.

Which of these two men (Bert or Pete) shows by a changed life that he has truly repented? _____

12. So what is the evidence of a change of mind? A changed l ____.

13. Now learn Matthew 3:8 by heart.

“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.”

(Matthew 3:8)

As you have done before, memorise this verse using the spaces below as a guide. P _____ f _____ in k _____
with r _____ (_____ 3:8)

14. a) Repentance means a change of m _____.

b) The evidence of this is a changed l _____.

15. Many people make the mistake of thinking that repentance is simply feeling sorry for their sins. They don't realise the importance of living a changed life.

But what is true repentance? (Tick the right answer)

- a. To feel sorry for your sins but not to leave them behind.
- b. Not to feel sorry for your sins at all.
- c. To be sorry for your sins and to begin to live a changed life.

16. So, true repentance is shown by TWO things. Without them there is no real repentance. These two things are:

1. sorrow for sins
2. a changed life

Memorise these two evidences of true repentance.

17. Think back to the examples of Bert and Pete (see No.11 in this lesson). Both of the men felt sorry for their sins, but only one of them repented.

a) How do we know that PETE truly repented?

Because in addition to being sorry for his sins, he didn't go on in the same old way, but showed a change.

b) But we know that BERT did not repent because, in spite of feeling sorry, he did not show a change.

18. What are the two things which give evidence of true repentance?

a) Being sorry for sin.

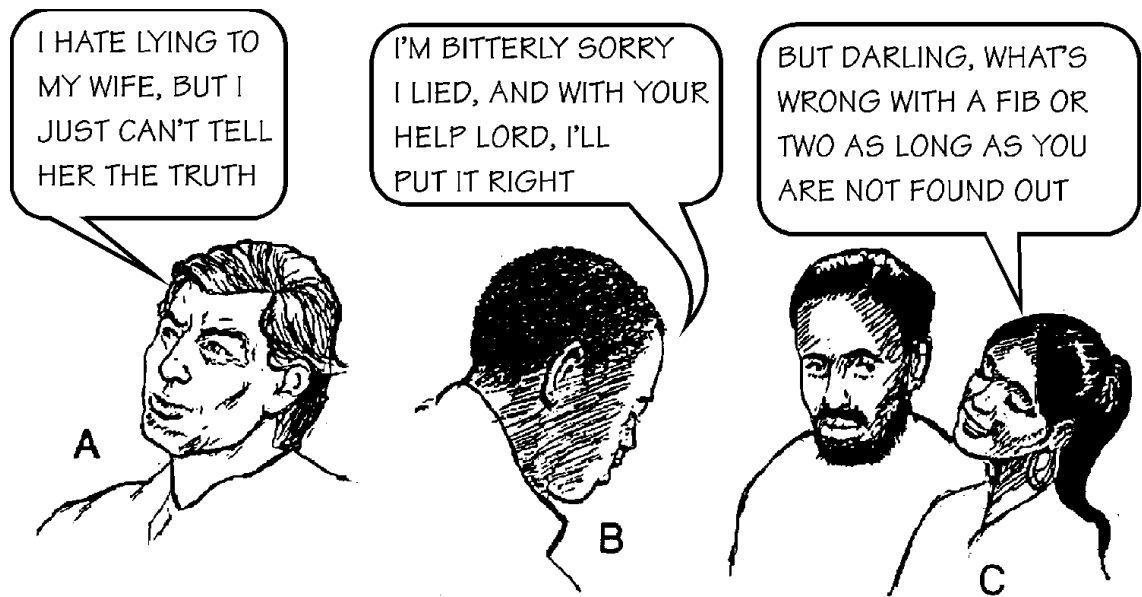
b) A change in life.

19. Which of the people in the pictures below is showing true repentance?

A

B

C



20. So merely feeling sorry for your sins is NOT true repentance. If you truly repent:

- a) how will you feel about your sins? _____
- b) how should your life be? _____

21. In the list below you will find a false idea about repentance. Mark it with an "X"

- a. Sorrow for sins without a changed life.
- b. Sorrow for sins and also a changed life.
- c. Believing in Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

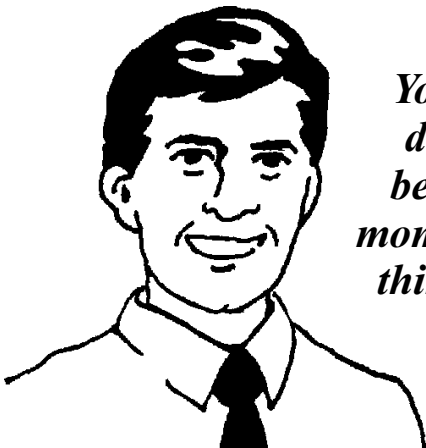
22. If you truly repent:

- a) will you continue to feel happy about your sins? (Answer "Yes" or "No") _____
- b) will you continue committing the same sins over and over again as you did before? (Answer "Yes" or "No") _____

23. What two things show that there has been true repentance?

- a) _____ for _____
- b) A _____

24. Now review the verse that you learnt in this lesson with its reference. If you can't remember, look back to No. 13.



You really believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, don't you? In that case there should have been some change in your life. Think for a moment about this and see if there isn't something that you should be asking the Lord to help you to turn away from. Then you will be able to tell this to your counselor, and your life will testify to your friends.

25. Now do test 2.

TEST 2

1. If you have truly repented:
 - a) how will you feel about your sins?

 - b) how should your life be?

2. Which of the following shows a person who has truly repented?
 - a. One who thinks: “Although I am sorry that I have to trick Albert, I am afraid that for me it’s a necessary evil.”
 - b. One who says: “Albert, I am terribly sorry that I tricked you the other day. Please forgive me.” And then with Christ’s help seeks to put it right.
 - c. One who says: “I really enjoy tricking that old fool, Albert.”

3. Write out the words and reference of the verse that you learnt about turning from your sins.

(_____)

