Repentance

Introduction: God gives us space to repent

Luke 13:6-9, Revelation 2:20-23

* Nineveh – Jonah 3:4
* Don’t let your heart become stone cold – Revelation 9:18-21, Acts 17:30-31, Hebrews 3:14
* Repentance begins with the church – 1 Peter 4:17-18, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Ezekiel 9:4-6

# A logo of a churchMatthew 3:1-12

1. Repent is the first message of the Gospel vs.1

* John the Baptist – vs 1, 2 Chronicles 7:14
* Jesus preached it – Matthew 4:17
* The Apostles preached it – Acts 2:37-39, 3:19

2. Repentance involves confessing our sins vs.6

We confess our sins to God: Repentance cleanses the heart.

* *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:9*

We confess our sins to man: There is an accountability.

* *Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. James 5:16*
* *He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy. Proverbs 28:13*

3. Don’t minimize the conviction of the Holy Spirit vs.7-10

* There must be Godly sorrow for true repentance to occur – 2 Corinthians 7:9-11
* Some people walk away sad and afraid – Acts 24:24-26, Mark 10:21-22
* Don’t worry about the cost of what you are giving up; God is able to make it up 100-fold – Mark 10:28-31

4. True repentance has outward fruits and brings refreshing vs.8-10

* You are not saved *by* good works; you are saved *for* good works – Ephesians 2:8-10
* Repentance is healthy because it brings refreshing and cleansing – Acts 3:19, 1 John 1:9

5. Jesus wants to baptize us in the Holy Spirit and fire vs.11-12

* Fire does 3 things: It purifies, it illuminates, and it energizes.

*In humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will. II Timothy 2:25-26*