

**BOTTOM LINE WITH GOD'S WORD
FOR MEN #5**

Theme: Repentance

The words "repent" or "repentance" appear more than 50 times in the Bible.

Definition: Feel or express sincere regret or remorse about one's wrongdoing or sin.

Mark 1: 14-15 (NKJ)

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15) "The time has come," he said. "The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news."

A Thought:

"Change your hearts and lives because the Kingdom of Heaven is near." I wonder....just wondering if John the Baptist had any inkling of the impact of the aforementioned words. And to boot...the prophet Isaiah set the stage way back with the prophetic words...."This is a voice of one who calls out in the desert: prepare the way for the Lord. Make the road straight for Him." And in accordance with God's plan Jesus walked the same streets and neighborhoods as John the Baptist proclaiming 'repent and believe in the good news.'" He gave Himself for us....He paid the price to free us from evil and to make us pure people. Our love to Him should be exemplified by our repentant attitude and our deeds.

Now....what are your thoughts of Mark 1:14-15? Write them down.

Talk to yourself:

- **When God changes our heart - does He also change our actions?**
- **When we go to God - do our feelings and actions bring about true Godly sorrow? Take a moment to think about this.**
- **What is the difference between Godly sorrow and worldly sorrow?**
- **Do you think the word repent means “to get your act together” or to “get religion”? What are your thoughts?**
- **Sometimes we are not able to repent because we do not acknowledge the reality of our “personal” sin. Is this true in your life?**

Scriptures to read:

- **Psalms 51**
- **1 Cor. 11:27-29**
- **2 Cor, 7:10**
- **2 Peter 3:9**

Quote: Charles Colson, author

Repentance is an inescapable consequence of regeneration, an indispensable part of the conversion process that takes place under the convicting power of the Holy Spirit. Repentance is also a continuing state of mind.

Bottom Line:

President Nixon’s lawyer and Watergate ex-con Charles Colson knows of what he speaks “repentance is also a continuing state of mind.” It is impossible to love God unless we have a constant repentant attitude. We must have the desire to turn our nature (flesh) to God. Guess what...He can handle it! Look to Him with an earnest desire and ask Him to forgive your transgressions. His arms are wide open to receive you....not unlike a child reaching out to his father.

NOW.....THAT’S THE BOTTOM LINE.

Spiritual Dabbler,

Your bro, Ray