

Small Group/Sermon Notes for Foundational Truths Part 1: Repentance

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **Foundational Truths: Set Up**
- This is a series about maturing in the faith.
- Our text: **Hebrews 5:11-6:3**
 - God expects us to be growing and maturing over time.
 - This is all over the scriptures. A few ex: **1 Corinthians 14:20, James 1:4**, Jesus' parables: talents, sower, and **John 15:1-2**.
 - AND we are to have faith like a little child! **Mark 10:13-15**
 - Is that a contradiction?
- **Part 1: Repentance from acts that lead to death.**
- It's no mistake that repentance is first on the list.
 - The message of John The Baptist: **Matthew 3:1-2**
 - The purpose of John The Baptist: **Matthew 3:3**
 - Repentance prepares the way for the Lord.
 - This is true for the individual, family, church, or society.
- What is repentance?
 - It's when you reevaluate yourself (thoughts, actions, hopes) and decide to completely go with God.
 - At some point you have to say "I'm in" to Jesus. That's where the way is prepared for Jesus in your heart.
 - May or may not include emotional brokenness or a crisis moment.
 - Matthew's Testimony from: **Matthew 9:9**
 - The people cut to the heart: **Acts 2:36-39**
 - You can feel bad without repenting. Don't do that.
 - You can want to be forgiven without repenting. Don't do that either.
 - Normal: A big repentance event or season followed by many small repentance events and seasons.
 - Conversion vs attitude adjustments and committing your day to the Lord.
- What are acts that lead to death?
 - Various sins. **James 1:13-15**
 - Notice the long time it takes for death to come. Don't let that fool you.
 - One I've seen lately: Not loving the truth. Many others hide under that one!
 - Also, a pointless life. **John 15:1-2** again.
 - Could be translated "useless rituals."
 - I'd add not bearing fruit for the Kingdom of God.
 - Let's do something worth doing!! Brookston?
- Big mess: When people want to the benefits of repentance without actually repenting!
 - Maybe that is why you are so frustrated.
- Forgiveness follows repentance.
 - But today let's put our faith on this Spiritual Law: Forgiveness Follows Repentance.
 - When you truly say "I'm in" to God, He washes you clean and brings you in to His family.
 - **2 Peter 3:9**
 - God is waiting for you. Are you in?
- Pray for each other before you finish up!