

The Joy of Repentance

Psalm 32

One of the most regular disciplines we need to have as believers is repentance. It proves the Cross is real to us. Repentance gets us back to God when we have failed. It cuts the legs out of self-pity and self-reliance. It tears walls down that have been built by sin. King David, in Psalm 32, gives us a wonderful display of the brokenness of man and the rescue of our saving God.

1. If you are a believer in Christ, do you walk and live life with a constant reality that your sin is covered? What should life look like when that is a centerpoint of life?
2. When was the last time you were totally open and laid bare (or naked, as David puts it) before the Lord.....no holds barred? Are you in the habit of completely being honest with Him and agreeing with everything that he knows already about you and what you've done?
3. Do you see a difference between confession and repentance? How are they the same? How are they different?
4. What does the regular act of repenting quickly produce in your life? If you are in the habit of quickly running to Jesus when you sin, how will that affect your view of sin in the future and over time?
5. What does running to Christ after you've sin prove what you believe about Him? If you do not repent quickly to Him, what are you saying about God? What are you saying about the Cross? What are you saying about you?
6. Do you think David's bones literally wasted away during his unrepentance? If not, why such extreme language in his description? What's his point?
7. Has the Lord's hand ever been heavy upon you? If so, what does that prove about how He views you? If that has never happened, does that concern you?
8. How does one know they are offering prayers to God at a time where He may be found? When might He not be found?
9. Do you find it ironic that David has just come out of hiding --- yet now his hiding place is God? What's your hiding place? Is it your sin, circumstances, family, job, ---or just Jesus?
10. Does the steadfast love of God surrounding you mean you'll never experience trouble, trial or temptation again? If not, what is even better than those never affecting your life again?
11. Is there any hurtful way in you that God is trying to point out to you lately? How will you respond? How will you respond **today**?