

— REPENTANCE WITH GOD —

**WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP COHORT
MARANATHA COMMUNITY CHURCH**

STEPS OF REPENTANCE

ASK GOD TO SEARCH YOUR HEART.

Pray to God and ask him to reveal to you things that need repenting of. Ask the Spirit to convict and encourage you by the Word. Ask God to give you eyes to see your offense and a soft heart to receive it.

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting! — Psalm 139:23-24

DEFINE AND CONFESS SIN.

Be specific and clear about the offense.

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy. — Proverbs 28:13

PRAY FOR A HEART THAT IS SORROWFUL AND BROKEN OVER SIN.

Sin is not predominantly a failure of performance, but of intimacy between you and God. Acknowledge who you have sinned against, and the graces of God's presence that you have forfeited in sinning.

"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." — Joel 2:12-13a

APPEAL TO GOD'S MERCY.

True repentance makes no excuses or defenses for sin. We cannot appeal to our own goodness or point the finger at someone else. The only appeal we have is to God's mercy. Ask for forgiveness and a clean heart based on what you know about the character of God.

Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. — Joel 2:13b

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD! — Psalm 25:6-7

TURN FROM SIN BACK TO GOD.

Repentance requires you to turn from your own understanding, desires, and will to trust in God. Ask God to help you and give you strength as you commit to walking in the paths of the Lord.

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. — Psalm 25:8-10

BELIEVE THE GOSPEL.

When we confess our sin—believing in the work of Christ—we can rest assured that we have received forgiveness. Spend time reflecting on the finished work of Christ on your behalf. Rejoice in God that the gospel of Jesus provides repentant sinners with a just forgiveness.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness — 1 John 1:9

STEPS OF REPENTANCE — LUKE 15:11-24

1. ASK GOD TO SEARCH YOUR HEART.	2. DEFINE AND CONFESS SIN.
3. PRAY FOR A HEART THAT IS SORROWFUL AND BROKEN OVER SIN.	4. APPEAL TO GOD'S MERCY.
5. TURN FROM SIN BACK TO GOD.	6. BELIEVE THE GOSPEL.

PRACTICALS OF REPENTANCE

REPENTANCE IS COUNTERCULTURAL.

- How does the world teach us to respond to failings and shortcomings?

REPENTANCE REQUIRES PERSISTENCE.

- What are the obstacles to repentance, and how do we overcome them?

REPENTANCE SHOULD BE REGULAR.

- How can we build a regular rhythm of repentance?

STEPS OF REPENTANCE WORKSHEET

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