



God created us to be \_\_\_\_\_ creatures.

### Where have we been?

Expressing Regret  
Accepting Responsibility  
Making Restitution

This week's apology language: \_\_\_\_\_

- The ideal word that those who appreciate genuine repentance want to hear is "\_\_\_\_\_".
- These individuals want to see commitment.

*"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.* Joel 2:12–13

- \_\_\_\_\_ desires misdirect genuine repentance.
- These are people who want to witness observable change.

**A potential pitfall to genuine repentance rests in this statement:**

\_\_\_\_\_:

### What does healthy genuine repentance look like?

- Sincere repentance requires an \_\_\_\_\_ of self.
- Ask: "Is Christ at the forefront of my behaviors in this relationship?"

*"If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus . . ."Philippians 2:1–5 (NRSV)*

- Genuine repentance is about discovering a holy rhythm.
  - Intentionality.
  - A \_\_\_\_\_ of the heart and mind.

### **The story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11–32, NIV)**

- A story of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ hunger.

*“Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son . . .”*

Luke 15:18b–19a (NIV)

- Neglecting repentance can rob us of our sense of \_\_\_\_\_.

*“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him . . . For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.”* vv. 20b–24a

- Genuine repentance has \_\_\_\_\_ consequences.

### **But why does Scripture focus so much on the penitent? The ones who are lost and then found?**

*“But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.”* v. 32

- This apology language has a \_\_\_\_\_ rather than static quality.
- It also takes into account our \_\_\_\_\_.
- It provides us with a solid foundation for constructive criticism.

### **Lyrics that capture our need for repentance**

*Words by U2 (2000)*

*“You’ve got to get yourself together  
 You’ve got stuck in a moment  
 And now you can’t get out of it.  
 Don’t say that later will be better  
 Now you’re stuck in a moment  
 And you can’t get out of it.”*

**Words to take with you:**

- **We cannot make a commitment to change without \_\_\_\_\_.**
- **Who in your life can remind you that with God's help, real change can take place?**
- **We would not have any inclination to repent if it were not for \_\_\_\_\_.**

Major sources: *The Five Languages of Apology* by Dr. Gary Chapman and Jennifer Thomas.  
*Feasting on the Word* Commentary Series  
*Parenthood* television series  
*U2* by U2 and Neil McCormick