

A Right Turn on Repentance Avenue

February 16, 2025 | Pastor Mike Foster |

1 Samuel 7 | Return to Me

When the “hand of the Lord” is upon us and we begin to experience conviction and consequences for our sin, only a right turn on Repentance Avenue will lead us back to the Lord and his blessing. Beware the wrong turns of (1) resistance, (2) regret, and (3) religion as you follow these directions along Repentance Avenue:

- **Recover your reverence for God**

- **Remove the rivals of God**

- **Rebuild your reliance on God**

FOR FURTHER ACTION/REFLECTION

Meditate on 2 Corinthians 7:8-12, Psalm 24:3-4, Psalm 32:1-5, Psalm 51, 1 John 1:8-10

Listen to “No One Else (Tear Down the Idols)” –bit.ly/NoOneElse1

Listen to “Song of Repentance” – bit.ly/45dqog4

Listen to “Give us Clean Hands” – bit.ly/GiveusCleanHands

Listen to “One Pure and Holy Passion” – bit.ly/OnePureandHoly

Listen to the playlist of songs for the “Return to Me” series – bit.ly/ReturnToMeSongs

Read about repentance – bit.ly/Repentance1

Read about the difference between repentance and regret – bit.ly/RepentvsRegret

Read *Counterfeit Gods* by Tim Keller

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Read 1 Samuel 4:1-11. How do you observe the Israelites treating the ark of the covenant in this passage? Do we ever rely on the “things of God” rather than God himself? What is so dangerous about this?
3. Read John 5:39-40. What is Jesus warning about here? How does this warning apply to us today?
4. Read Isaiah 46:1-7. What are some differences between the Lord and the idols of people?
5. Have you ever been guilty of “trying to carry God” rather than allowing him to “carry you”? In what ways have you sought to use God for your own purpose rather than submitting to his purpose?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 7:10-11. In your own words, explain the difference between godly sorrow and worldly sorrow.
7. Share about a time when you experienced deep regret for something you had done. Did your regret lead to real repentance or not? How do you know?
8. Read 1 Samuel 7:6-8. What are some actions of the Israelites that accompany their repentance?
9. Read Psalm 32:1-5. What is the danger of missing the “right turn on repentance avenue”? What might be at stake if we fail to repent when the Lord brings consequences and conviction?
10. Is there anything you need to repent of today? Take some time to confess sin to one another and pray for one another (James 5:16).

