CREEKSIDE’S TEACHING NOTES for Sunday, January 31, 2016



Part 3

The Art of REPENTANCE

JUDGING

(Evaluate others with love and wisdom.)

🡣

CONFRONTING

(Healthy confrontation is a gift.)

🡣

REPENTANCE

*“our Lord and Master Jesus Christ . . .*

 *willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.”*

Martin Luther

Many people know the relief of repentance.

Believers should know the joy of repentance.

Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while— yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Corinthians 7:8-10

My sins, my sins, my Savior,
How sad on Thee they fall.

I GENUINELY REPENT WHEN I . . .

⦁ Name It – call it what it is . . . sin

⦁ Own It – take responsibility for it . . . no excuses

⦁ Grieve It – be saddened by what was done

⦁ Confess It - admit it to those affected . . . including God

⦁ Quit it – desire and direct my life to do what is right

⦁ Mend It – repair the damage . . . as I am able

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| AREA AFFECTED | RELIGIOUS REPENTANCE“worldly sorrow” –2 Corinthians 7:10 | GOSPEL REPENTANCE“godly sorrow” –2 Corinthians 7:10 |
| SORROW OVER MY SIN | I am sorry for how my sin affects me. | I am sorry for how my sin displeases and dishonors God. |
| AFFECTS OF MY SIN | I do not hate the sin for itself but only as it affects me. | I hate the sin for what it is, how it affects me and others, and the cost God had to pay to rescue me from its power over me. |
| BASIS FOR MY REPENTANCE | Religious repentance is fear based. It is driven by my fear of the consequences to me of my sin. | Gospel repentance is love based. It is driven by my relationship with God. |
| CONSEQUENCES | Fear-based repentance makes me hate myself. | Joy-based repentance makes me hate the sin. |
| GOAL FOR REPENTANCE | I repent to keep God happy so he will continue to bless me and answer my prayers. | I repent to tap into the joy of my union with Christ to weaken my impulse to do anything contrary to God’s heart. |
| APPROACH TO FORGIVENESS | I try to earn my forgiveness through my repentance. | I receive forgiveness earned by Jesus. It would be unjust for God to ever deny me forgiveness because Jesus earned my acceptance through his life and death for me. |
| PLACE OF HOPE IN REPENTANCE | When my hope is in my moral goodness it is difficult for me to repent. It infers that I am far from God. | Because my hope is in Jesus’ righteousness I do not find it traumatic to admit my weaknesses and failures. |
| HOW SECURITY DRIVES MY REPENTANCE | My relational security is found in my personal goodness so repentance is an enemy that tells me I am not good enough. Consequently I avoid repentance. | My relational security with God is found in Jesus so repentance is a posture I hold because it brings joy in my walk with God. |
| MY PERSPECTIVE ON REPENTANCE | There is bitterness in repentance because I find myself either constantly denying my sins and flaws and so I push aside the need to repent or I am constantly being reminded of how I fail to be good enough. | There is a sweetness in repentance because the more I see my flaws and sins the more precious and electrifying and amazing is the grace of God. |

YOU CAN LEARN TO FIGHT RIGHT . . . Q & EH? . . . Sunday, February 21

Email your questions to FightRight@creeksidechurch.ca