



encounter.

a step-by-step guide through Scripture

disciple:

// someone who follows Jesus and leads others to do the same.

Studying God's Word is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God, be tuned to the Holy Spirit, and get to know Jesus intimately. John 1 tells us that the Word is God, the writer of Psalms tells us it will light our path, and Jesus tells us in John 8 if we abide in His Word, we are truly His disciples.

This tool is just one of the many ways to study the Bible and dive deeper into the passages we will be studying each weekend together. Our hope is that you begin to deeply understand the scripture we will be unpacking and allow God to speak to your heart before you even walk through the doors on Sunday.

This tool is designed to help guide you as you seek to understand the context of each verse, what it meant to its original audience, and what it means to us today.

There are a few ways you can utilize this PDF.

01 Print the PDF.
-or-

02 Download the PDF, open in a notes app (GoodNotes, Notability, etc), fill it out digitally
-or-

03 Use the PDF transcribe into a notebook or journal.

5 marks of a disciple.

- Obey God's Word Completely
- Love His Church Wholeheartedly
- Follow the Holy Spirit Relentlessly
- Seek the Lost Intentionally
- Know Jesus Intimately



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Week of: Jan 16th // Conversation: Jan 22nd
"Turn Back"

John the Baptist was a prophet who preached the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. He paved the way for Christ to come and begin His ministry. John the Baptist challenged the crowds not to rest in their position of being "sons of Abraham", but to bear fruits in keeping with repentance. In other words, the fact that they were Jewish was not enough – they needed to have a change of heart and turn back from their sins to be ready for the coming of Jesus.

In the Greek, the word repentance is "metanoia". It means a change of mind, a recognition of sin, sorrow for it and a resulting change in action. It's turning around and walking the opposite way – away from sin.

Let's look at a few places in the Bible that talk about repentance.

pray.

Before you get into the Word today, take a moment and take stock of your heart. Is there anything you need to confess to the Lord? Is there anything that needs to get out in the open? The Lord is gracious and merciful and will not turn away His face from you if you return to Him (2 Chron 30:9 – ESV).



observe.

Marking key words in passages of Scripture helps to draw your attention to the main ideas/themes. It causes you to slow down and absorb what you're reading.

- 01** Mark any reference to sin(ners) with a squiggly underline, including words like transgressions, grievous way, trespasses, unrighteousness, iniquity, and deceit.
- 02** Mark the word forgive(n)(ness) with the number 4.
- 03** Draw a boomerang arrow over the word repent(ance).

PROVERBS 28:13

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

LUKE 5:30-32 (ESV)

30 And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" 31 And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 32 I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

PSALM 139:23-24 (ESV)

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



EPHESIANS 1:7 (ESV)

7 In him [Jesus] we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,

1 JOHN 1:9 (ESV)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2 PETER 3:9 (ESV)

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

PSALM 32:1-3

1 Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
2 Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

apply.

04 What happens when we confess our sins?

05 Look at the places where you drew a boomerang arrow. What is God's attitude towards those who confess their sins and repent (have a change of mind)?



apply.

- 06** Look at your squiggly underlines. What happens if you try to conceal your transgressions (sins)? What if you confess them?

- 07** What did Jesus mean when He said “those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick”? Who did He call?

- 08** According to Psalm 32, who is blessed?

- 09** Spend time praising God for the forgiveness He has provided to you through the blood of His Son, Jesus. Write out a prayer directly from you to Him, thanking Him for His grace and mercy.



bring it together.

John the Baptist paved the way for people to receive the message of Jesus Christ when he came. He was a forerunner who preached a baptism of repentance. He called people to turn away from their sin, confess their transgressions and live a life that showed a true change of heart.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). The key is that we need to confess. We need to come to God, be in agreement with Him about our wrongs, accept His forgiveness and turn away from our sins. Our walk should reflect a change of heart.

Praise God that He understands our failings and flaws! He never forsakes us and forgives us of our sins through the blood of Jesus!

connect.

We are available to answer any questions you might have.



info@gtwy.church

We believe life is better in circles. Groups are a great place to grow in your relationship with other believers and find encouragement and accountability as you grow in your relationship with God.



www.gtwy.church/groups