

# *Honesty in “Getting Right with God”*

**Introduction:** Repentance is a critical aspect of the Christian faith, signifying more than just an apology; it's a profound transformation of the heart and mind. Here's a three-point teaching on honestly repenting to God, supported by Scripture.

## *1. Acknowledge Your Sins Honestly*

**Scriptural Reference: 1 John 1:8-9 (NIV)** "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

**Teaching:** True repentance begins with honest self-assessment. We must recognize and admit our sins without excuses or denial. This acknowledgment is crucial because it aligns us with the truth of our condition and prepares us for genuine change. God's forgiveness is available to those who come before Him with a sincere and contrite heart.

## *2. Turn Away from Sin*

**Scriptural Reference: Acts 3:19 (NIV)** "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord."

**Teaching:** Repentance involves more than just recognizing our sins; it requires a deliberate decision to turn away from them. This means changing our behavior and making a conscious effort to live in a way that honors God. It's about a transformation in how we live and make choices, reflecting our commitment to aligning our lives with God's will.

## *3. Seek a New Path with God's Help*

**Scriptural Reference: Psalm 51:10-12 (NIV)** "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me."

**Teaching:** After acknowledging our sins and turning away from them, we should seek God's help to sustain this change. Genuine repentance involves asking God to transform our hearts and minds, making us new creations capable of living out His will. It's about relying on the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen us as we pursue a new path of righteousness and obedience.

**Conclusion:** Honest repentance is a process that begins with acknowledging our sins, involves a deliberate turning away from them, and continues with seeking God's transformative power to live a renewed life. By following these steps, we align ourselves with God's will and open the door to His grace and renewal.