

Study 2: Repentance

*Entering the kingdom of God begins with a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus said that He came that we might have an abundant life (John 10:10). The Bible teaches that we are born sinful, cut off from God. Jesus Christ died to pay for that sin and rose from the dead in order to continue a living relationship with those who will come to Him by faith. The abundant life consists of living in relationship with our Lord and God. The first step in entering the kingdom of God is **repentance**. In Acts 2:38, Peter gives this as the first instruction to those who were “pierced to the heart.”*

This study will look at the conversion of the apostle Paul as he entered the kingdom of God.

Read Acts 9:1-30.

1. What was Saul's (the apostle Paul's original name) life like before he became a follower of Jesus?
2. In what ways did his life change?
3. What caused the change?
4. One of the first signs that a person has truly met Jesus is repentance—a realization that one has missed the mark and not lived as God would have wanted him to. What is the evidence that Paul repented of his sin?

Conclusion

1. What are the evidences that you have repented of your sin?
2. Once a person has entered into the kingdom of God, he begins a new life, which will be progressive, involving daily, ongoing repentance as God reveals things which are not pleasing to Him. When we sin, we are to confess our sins (1 John 1:9). Have a time of confession for particular sins which might be getting in the way of your relationship with the Lord.