



## Entering the Kingdom

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*“John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, “Repent, for the Kingdom of God is near.”” Mt. 3:1-2*

*“From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near.”” Mt. 4:17*

### How do I enter the Kingdom?

- I must be born again. Jn. 3:1-8
- I must change and become like a little child. Mt. 18:1-5
- My righteousness must be greater than that of the religious leaders. Mt. 5:19-20
- If I am poor in spirit. Mt. 5:3
- If I am persecuted for righteousness. Mt. 5:10

### What will keep me from entering the Kingdom?

- Refusing to surrender everything to Jesus. Mt. 19:16-26
- Living a false life: Practicing evil while trying to look righteous. Mt. 7:21-23
- Practicing a religious life without true repentance/mind change. Mt. 21:31-32

### What is true repentance?

*“Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you; the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”” Mt. 21:31-32*

Repent – to change one’s mind, purpose; a change of self.

*“How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!” Heb. 9:14*

- Repentance clears the conscience so you can live without fear, guilt, and shame.
- Then you can serve God freely.

### The process of repentance.

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” 1 Jn. 1:9*

1. Honest confession – Tell God the truth.

*“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing, and perfect will.” Rom. 12:2*

2. Mind change – Ask God to replace your thoughts with His thoughts. “What do you want me to know?”
3. Form change – Ask God, “What do you want me to do?”