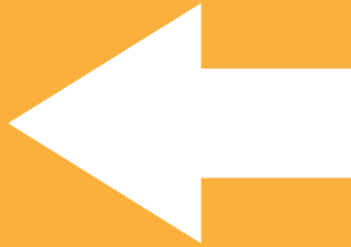


REPENT AND BELIEVE



The following is an outline that is helpful for teaching the command of Jesus to repent and believe.

PART ONE Looking back



PRAYER



Begin the time in prayer together.

ACCOUNTABILITY



Ask questions about commitments that were made.
For example, ask:

- Did you read or listen to the Bible daily?
- How did you obey what God taught you?
- Do you have any prayer requests or stories you would like to share?

PART TWO
Looking up



STUDY



Teach about the command of Jesus to repent and believe by studying the Bible together. First read a time when Jesus gave the command and discuss a true story which illustrates what obeying the command can be like.

Mark 1:14-15:

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming the kingdom of God and giving a command. This command is to repent and believe in the gospel.

Luke 19:1-10:

He entered Jericho and was passing through. And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

After reading the story, review the story in one of these ways:

- Tell the story from memory.

- Talk about the story. What happened?
- Tell or read the story again.
- Do a drama illustrating the story.
- Draw pictures illustrating the story.

After reviewing the story, discuss the following questions based on the story:

- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about man?
- What should we not do?
- What should we do?

After discussing these generic questions, the following may be helpful for this specific story.

Discuss the following:

- What does “repent” mean?
“Repent” means to turn from sin toward Jesus and follow him.
- What does “believe” mean?
“Believe” means to trust Jesus as Lord, placing our faith in him.

- Why should we repent?
All sin and need salvation in Jesus. If needed, read Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, and Romans 10:9-10 to review the gospel.
- Who should repent?
Everyone should repent. If needed, read Acts 2:38-41.
- What is “assurance”?
Assurance is confidence that we are saved by believing in the gospel of Jesus, and that we will not lose our salvation. Read 1 John 1:9, John 10:28, and Romans 10:9-10.

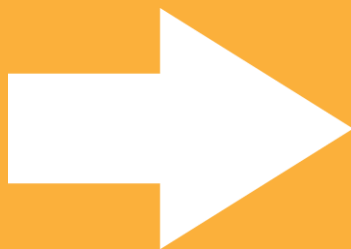
PRACTICE



Repent and believe in the gospel.
Repent of sin every day.

PART THREE

Looking ahead



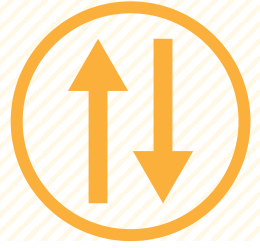
COMMITMENT



Discuss what to obey from the story and the command of Jesus. Some ways to obey before meeting next are:

- Repent and believe in the gospel daily.
- Tell the story (Luke 19:1-10) to others.
- Zacchaeus experienced Jesus by being with him. Today, the primary way we learn about Jesus is through reading or listening to the Bible. Every day, read or listen to the Bible and think about the four generic questions from this study.

PRAYER



Close the time in prayer together.
Pray for the commitments everyone made.

For Kingdom Growth

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Many thanks to all who have contributed to this material for kingdom growth. Your service in the Lord is never in vain.