

JESUS AT THE CENTER OF THE CHURCH

Repentance
Message 1
Bryan Jones
August 13, 2023

C. Correct
(Revelation 2:4-7. C/R: Psalm 42:5; Acts 19:11-20;
1 Corinthians 13:1-3; Philippians 3:8-10)

► Outline

*Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did
at first.* **Revelation 2:5 (NIV)**

A. Introduction (Revelation 2:1)

B. Commend (Revelation 2:2-3)

1. _____.

2. _____.

3. _____.

1. _____.
(Revelation 2:5)

2. _____.
(Psalm 42:5)

Answers: B. 1. Hard working 2. Perseverance 3. Holiness C. 1. Repent 2. Remember
Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

Describe a time you felt the presence of God.

Prayer

Spend a few minutes in prayer, inviting God into this time. Ask God to show you what He wants you to learn in this study.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read Revelation 2:1-7

1. Jesus begins His letter to the church at Ephesus by commending them for what they had done. What were they faithful to do?
2. Being a Christian requires hard work and perseverance. Describe a time you worked hard to do something God had called you to. How did you make it through and what helped you to continue?
3. Jesus next calls the Ephesians out for having left their first love. How has your love for Jesus changed over the years?
4. The Ephesian church did many good things out of obligation and duty rather than love. What can you do to change your focus from your task to Jesus?
5. It can be easy to forget all God has done in your life and end up in a place of grumbling about what He is not doing in your life now. Is there a place in your life where you are unhappy with God? Describe that and pray for God to remind you of His faithfulness and goodness.
6. Jesus tells the Ephesians to repent and return to their first love. Repentance requires turning away from what has caused you to stumble. What in your life do you need to repent from and return your love to Jesus? Spend time with God praying about this.

7. In verse 5, Jesus says to *Do the works you did at first*, meaning when they first believed in Him. What practices did you eagerly do when you first believed that you have since fallen away from?

Read Ephesians 4:17-24

8. Paul directs the Ephesians to change their behaviors and ways of thinking. What are some things you are holding onto that you need to change in your life?
9. In these verses, Paul tells the Ephesians to take on a new nature and be transformed, putting Jesus at the center of their lives. What are some ways that you can put Jesus at the center of your daily life? What steps can you take in the church to grow in this?

Daily Devotional

Spend time with God each day this week by reading, meditating on, and praying through the Daily Devotional. If you do not have a Daily Devotional book, you can pick one up in the concourse today, at the Reception Desk during the week or on the Brookwood app.

Memory Verse

Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.

Revelation 2:5 (NIV)

Daily Reading

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Day 1: Romans 6:12-14 | Day 5: Galatians 5:19-23 |
| Day 2: Romans 2:4 | Day 6: 1 Peter 1:18-21 |
| Day 3: 2 Chronicles 7:14 | Day 7: 1 John 1:9-10 |
| Day 4: 1 Peter 5:8-9 | |

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, August 20, we will continue our series *Jesus at the Center of the Church*. Prepare by reading **Revelation 2:8-11**.



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