

The questions below are intended to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the needs of their unique group.

**CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)**

- When was the last time you heard a public figure (politician, celebrity, athlete, artist, etc.) apologize?
- Did you get the sense that they were genuinely repentant? Why or why not?
- Is there a difference between being “sorry”, being “repentant”, and “asking forgiveness”?

**APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)****Intro:**

- Read 2 Corinthians 7:8-13 in the New International Version, and several other Bible translations.**
- In his message, Pastor Pat highlighted verse 10: ***Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.*** What is your one thing from Sunday? What stuck out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?

**#1 - Godly Sorry vs. Worldly Sorrow (7:10 NIV)**

- As a group, come up with a simple definition of “repentance”. Look back in your notes from Sunday’s message.
- Why do you think it’s so rare in this world to find someone genuinely repentant for what they have done?
- Worldly sorrow is actually true sadness over the consequences of sin, but does not bring about life change. Based on your definition of repentance, can someone be truly repentant without changing? Why or why not?
- Consider this statement: God demands repentance before He grants salvation.
  - How strongly do you agree with the statement (1 = “I totally disagree”, 10 = “I totally agree”)?
  - How might this statement affect the way you share the gospel with people who don’t know Christ?
  - If you’re a Christian, think back to your own salvation. Did you truly repent of your sins? What evidence is there of repentance in your life?

**#2 - Seven Characteristics of True Repentance (7:11 NIV)**

- Briefly explain how each of these 7 characteristics provide evidence of repentance in a Christ-follower’s life:
  - Earnestness (sincere and intense conviction)
  - Eagerness (enthusiasm to clear their name)
  - Indignation (loving the ways of God and hating the ways of men)
  - Fear (to live in the presence of God, under the authority of God, to the glory of God)
  - Longing (wanting to be restored after sin)
  - Zeal (energetic for good works)
  - Punishment (readiness to see justice done)

**#3 - Baptism, Communion, and Godly Sorrow**

- On Sunday morning, we experienced baptism and communion at Saylorville Church.
  - Think back to the baptism testimonies (or watch them online at [www.saylorvillechurch.com](http://www.saylorvillechurch.com)). How does baptism show true repentance in a Christian’s life?
  - During communion, we are encouraged to remember Christ’s death until He comes back. What is the connection between “remembering” and “repenting”?

***How sorry am I if I don’t actually change?***

**PRAY FOR EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)**

- Pray that God will show us where we need to truly repent, and how we need to carefully confront others who also need to repent.

