

Repentance and Obtaining Forgiveness

Explanation

Over and over, Jesus and John the Baptist called people to repentance. When Jesus sent forth his twelve, “they went out, and preached that men should repent” (Mk 6:12). Jesus said, “Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Lk 13:5). Some of his most notable parables, including the stories of the prodigal son and the unmerciful servant, deal with the crucial themes of repenting and obtaining forgiveness. Chart 9-11 helps readers to identify some of the key steps of repentance that are reflected in the scriptures that guide people through the process of obtaining forgiveness and reconciliation through the atonement of Jesus Christ.

Reference

Spencer W. Kimball, *The Miracle of Forgiveness* (Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1969).

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Recognize that an attitude or action is out of harmony with God's will

Remorse, feel genuinely sorry with a broken heart and contrite spirit

Resolve and truly desire to make a permanent change

Report, confess sins to the Lord or bishop and talk with people whom you trust

Rely on the merits and mercy of God and put yourself in his hands

Respond to priesthood guidance

Request forgiveness from the Lord

Receive God's gift of forgiveness

Restitution, repair all possible damage to relationships with God or man

Renew your life through a realization of redemption

Reform your conduct by adopting new patterns of behavior

Reciprocate by forgiving others

Retain a remission by giving generously to those in need

Reinstatement in the household of faith by making new commitments

Repeat the resolve, especially during the sacrament

Rejoice, expressing thanks to God and testimony to others