

GRACE POINTE SBC

---

Study Guide

# Following God's Path Towards Repentance

Timothy Mckeown  
March 2, 2026

## Major Points

---

- 1 Every believer faces a crisis of faith that reveals spiritual poverty and drives them to depend on God rather than themselves**

*Matthew 5:3*

- 2 We must recognize God as our provider even when He is veiled in our circumstances, just as the brothers failed to recognize Joseph**

*Genesis 42:8*

- 3 True remorse means feeling about sin the way God feels—not socially acceptable dismissal but deep mourning that leads to confession**

*Genesis 42:21*

- 4 God uses both kindness and calamity to bring about repentance, and we must hunger and thirst for righteousness in response**

*Romans 2:4*

## Key Quotes

---

*“Guilt is saying how bad you were in the past. Conviction is how good you can be in the future.”*  
at 2:01

*“How ridiculous would it be for us to ignore the seriousness of sin that put Jesus on the cross?”*  
at 2:15

*“20 years of guilt, 20 years of shame, 20 years of sorrow, 20 years of secret that they never told their father, maybe never even discussed among themselves.”*  
at 21:29

*“There is no socially acceptable sin in God's eyes.”*  
at 18:01

## Discussion Questions

---

1. Pastor Mckeown drew a sharp distinction between guilt and conviction — guilt says 'how bad you were in the past' while conviction says 'how good you can be in the future.' How does that distinction change the way you respond when the Holy Spirit brings something to your attention?

-----

-----

2. The brothers carried their secret about Joseph for twenty years before being confronted with it. Have you ever experienced a long-buried sin or unresolved issue suddenly resurfacing? What does that tell us about how God works in His own timing?

---

---

3. Pastor Mckeown said that God uses both 'honey and the stick' — kindness and calamity — to bring people to repentance. Looking at your own life, which has God used more often with you, and why do you think that is?

---

---

4. The brothers saw their money restored in their sacks and instead of seeing it as a blessing, they were terrified and said, 'What is this that God has done to us?' Why do you think a hardened or guilty conscience can cause someone to misinterpret God's blessings as curses?

---

---

5. Pastor Mckeown emphasized that God's testing isn't to find out what's in us — He already knows — but to show us what's in us. How does that reframe a current trial or difficulty you're going through right now, and how might it change your response to it?

---

---

## Word Studies

ὁμολογέω

**homologeō**

*Greek*

To say the same thing as another, to agree with or acknowledge openly; in the context of confession, it means aligning one's assessment of sin with God's own verdict.

χρηστότης

**chrēstotēs**

*Greek*

Goodness expressed as kindness, gentleness, or generosity in action; it emphasizes God's benevolent disposition that actively draws sinners toward transformation.

נָכַר

**nākar**

*Hebrew*

To recognize or acknowledge someone; in the Hithpael form it means to disguise oneself or act as a stranger, conveying deliberate concealment of identity.

## Cross References

### **Psalm 51:17**

David's declaration that God desires a broken and contrite heart directly parallels the sermon's emphasis on being 'poor in spirit' and impoverished before God as the first step toward repentance.

### **Hosea 5:15**

God declares He will withdraw until His people acknowledge their guilt and seek His face — illustrating the pattern of crisis leading to recognition of sin, the same cycle Pastor Mckeown traced through Genesis 42.

### **Luke 22:61-62**

Peter's eyes meeting Jesus' gaze and his bitter weeping after denial exemplify the move from recognition to remorse that the sermon describes as essential stages in the repentance cycle.

### **Psalm 23:3**

The shepherd who 'restores my soul' connects to the sermon's closing point about God's work of restoration and reconciliation, showing that repentance leads to the soul being led back into right paths.

### **Ezekiel 36:26-27**

God's promise to replace a heart of stone with a heart of flesh addresses the 'hard-heartedness' the sermon warns against — those who refuse God's kindness and will not receive His leading toward repentance.

## Further Reading

- **Fresh Encounter: God's Pattern for Spiritual Awakening**

*by Henry T. Blackaby and Claude V. King*

- **Repentance: A Cosmic Shift of Mind and Heart**

*by Edward T. Welch*

- **The Genesis Record: A Scientific and Devotional Commentary on the Book of Beginnings**

*by Henry M. Morris*

## Scripture References

REFERENCE	TYPE	TIME	CONTEXT
Genesis 42:1-8	Read Aloud	4:03	<i>And Jacob saw that there was grain in Egypt. Jacob...</i>
Genesis 42:9-17	Read Aloud	18:06	<i>And Joseph remembered the dreams that he had about...</i>
Genesis 42:18-22	Read Aloud	20:12	<i>Joseph said to them on the third day, do this and ...</i>
Genesis 42:23-26	Read Aloud	28:34	<i>They did not know that Joseph understood them. For...</i>
Genesis 42:27-38	Read Aloud	33:23	
Matthew 5:3	Referenced	9:35	
Matthew 5:4	Referenced	14:27	
Matthew 5:5	Referenced	23:13	
Matthew 5:6	Referenced	27:10	
Romans 2:4	Read Aloud	32:08	<i>Or do you despise the riches of his goodness, his ...</i>
1 Samuel 12:1-25	Referenced	9:35	
2 Corinthians 7:9-10	Referenced	25:45	
John 5:24	Referenced	30:18	
James 5:16	Referenced	25:04	