

## Sermon Summary – February 22, 2015, Pastor Alan Smith

### “I’m Sorry”

We say we are sorry in many different ways. If you bump into someone or walk in front of them we say we are sorry out of social expectation. There are times when we have had to say we are sorry because we were instructed to do it. Remember when you were told to say you were sorry because of a fight or argument you had as a child? Your Mom or Dad would tell you to say you were sorry. Sometimes we really weren't sorry but we said it because we had to say it. Then there are the times when we say we sorry because we really felt sorry for what we did.

In **Psalm 51** David is pouring out his heart to God. He is truly repentant of the sins that he committed. Have we done that? Have we truly been repentant of our sin? If we have sin in our lives that we are not repentant of, it can affect our relationship with God. Much like the clouds block the sunshine our sin blocks our relationship with God. Let's look at repentance.

Repentance is necessary to have full fellowship with God.

### **Acts 14:15 (NLT)**

**15 “Friends, why are you doing this? We are merely human beings—just like you! We have come to bring you the Good News that you should turn from these worthless things and turn to the living God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them.”**

### **James 4:7–10 (NLT)**

**7 So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. 9 Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.**

We need to turn from worthless things, purify our hearts, and humble ourselves before God. We need to turn to Him and He will lift us up. We need to repent and repenting means *to change one's way of life as the result of a complete change of thought and attitude with regard to sin and righteousness.*

In the turning away from our sin we should have a certain level of sorrow for the sin we committed.

### **Job 42:6 (NLT)**

**6 I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance.”**

### **Luke 18:13 (NLT)**

**13 But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’**

We need to confess our sins to God.

**Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)**

**13 People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.**

**Hosea 14:1–2 (NLT)**

**1 Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God, for your sins have brought you down. 2 Bring your confessions, and return to the LORD. Say to him, “Forgive all our sins and graciously receive us, so that we may offer you our praises.”**

Repentance involves turning to God. We are turning away from our sinful acts and need to turn toward God.

**Luke 22:32 (NLT)**

**32 “But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers.”**

It is necessary to have faith in God.

**Acts 20:21 (NLT)**

**21 I have had one message for Jews and Greeks alike—the necessity of repenting from sin and turning to God, and of having faith in our Lord Jesus.**

**Acts 26:18 (NLT)**

**18 “To open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God’s people, who are set apart by faith in me.”**

Obedience is part of repentance.

**Ezekiel 18:21–23 (NLT)**

**21 But if wicked people turn away from all their sins and begin to obey my decrees and do what is just and right, they will surely live and not die. 22 All their past sins will be forgotten, and they will live because of the righteous things they have done.**

**23 “Do you think that I like to see wicked people die? Says the Sovereign LORD. Of course not! I want them to turn from their wicked ways and live.**

Repentance demonstrated by actions.

**Isaiah 1:16–17 (NLT)**

**16 Wash yourselves and be clean! Get your sins out of my sight. Give up your evil ways. 17 Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.**

## **2 Chronicles 7:14 (NLT)**

**14 Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.**

Repentance must be sincere.

## **Psalm 78:34–37 (NLT)**

**34 When God began killing them, they finally sought him. They repented and took God seriously. 35 Then they remembered that God was their rock, that God Most High was their redeemer. 36 But all they gave him was lip service; they lied to him with their tongues. 37 Their hearts were not loyal to him. They did not keep his covenant.**

## **Psalm 51:17 (NLT)**

**17 The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.**

What is our attitude toward sin? Is there sin in your life that you haven't confessed or haven't taken seriously?