

Children's Ministry

THIRD
FOURTH

January 17th || Matthew 4:12-25

Main Point: **Turn from sin, Turn to Jesus**

(Try to repeat the main point several times.)

Read Matthew 4:12-25 and ask:

1. According to the prophesy of Isaiah 9, who is the Great Light that came to Zebulun and Naphtali?
2. Who has already preached, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand?" What happened to that preacher?
3. How do Peter, Andrew, James and John respond to Jesus' invitation?
4. What was at the middle of Jesus ministry? What was He always doing, along with the miracles and works?

Driving it

home...



"Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent."—Revelation 3:19

Repentance is often a harsh sounding word, but we shouldn't think of it as such. If God loves us, He stirs our heart to see the need to repent and causes us to do it. Therefore, repenting from sin to turn to Jesus is a sign that you love God! We should turn to Jesus, not simply because we have to, but because we WANT to!

Digging Deeper

1. What is repentance?
2. How does this passage show us repentance is necessary for Jews and Gentiles?
3. Jesus was preaching "the gospel of the kingdom?" Who is the King of that Kingdom?
4. Do the people of Israel ultimately repent as Jesus called them to?

Repentance example: Show the kids the animal cookies in your hands. Then have them turn their backs to you, facing the wall. Now, ask them what they would need to do to get the cookies. (turn from wall and turn toward you). This is a picture of repentance.

Time permitting, share about Martin Luther

By the year 1517, the church had messed up quite a few things, and wasn't very clear about the gospel anymore. Martin Luther, a German monk, wrote 95 things the church needed to change to be more Biblical. His very first item was about repentance. Luther wrote:

"When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, "Repent" (Mt 4:17), He willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance."

Luther was saying that the Bible teaches that a child of God will repent every time He sees his sin, not just once in his life to get saved. When we become a believer, Jesus gives us a desire to obey Him. When we see we haven't, our reaction should be to repent and turn back to Jesus. Every time.

- Ask the kids:
1. Has Jesus caused me to turn from my sin?
 2. Do I still turn from sin to Jesus?