

**Steps to Christ**  
**Chapter 3**  
**Repentance**

I. The Meaning of Repentance

 **Read Psalm 32:1-2, 5; Psalm 51:1, 3, 7, 10-12, 14**

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think David means when he says, “. . . whose sin is covered”?
2. How would you answer someone who asks you the meaning of “My sin is ever before me” in Psalm 51:3?
3. What do you feel David is saying in Psalm 51?
4. On reading the whole chapter, what is your favorite verse, and why?

 **Read Luke 18:11-13**

Discussion Questions:

5. In one word, how would you describe the Pharisee? The publican?
6. In reading the account of the publican, compare the publican’s attitude with the concept of self-esteem.

7. How would the publican’s attitude in verse 14 be looked at in the contemporary culture? Why?

 **Read Luke 15:17-21**

Discussion Questions:

8. What do you feel verse 17 means when it said that the prodigal son “came to himself”?
9. What unusual aspects of repentance do you note are indicated in verses 18 and 19?
10. On reading verse 21, what is the significance of what the son said to his father?

II. The Source of Repentance

 **Read John 12:32; John 16:8; Acts 5:31**

Discussion Questions:

11. How would you harmonize Acts 5:31 with John 12:32?
12. Jesus said He would send the Holy Spirit to reprove the world of sin. What relationship does this have to repentance?

 **Read Matthew 11:28**

Discussion Question:

13. What bearing do you feel this verse has on repentance?

III. The Consequences of Refusing to Repent

 **Read Proverbs 5:22**

Discussion Question:

14. Explain the psychological and spiritual implications of this verse. What do you feel “shall be holden with the cords of his sin” means?

 **Read Hebrews 3:7-8, and 13**

Discussion Questions:

15. What are the implications of the word “hardened”?

16. Give some examples of what happens when a person hardens his heart.

 **Read Psalm 32:3-4**

Discussion Question:

17. In everyday language, explain what you think David meant in verses 3 and 4.

IV. The Extent of Christ’s Forgiveness

 **Read Luke 7:40-50**

Discussion Question:

18. After reading these verses, what would you tell someone who thought they had sinned so much that God could never forgive them?

 **Read John 8:10-11**

Discussion Question:

19. What relationship do you think forgiveness will have to our future behavior?

“Those to whom He has forgiven most will love Him most, and will stand nearest to His throne to praise Him for His great love and infinite sacrifice. It is when we most fully comprehend the love of God that we best realize the sinfulness of sin. When we see the length of the chain that was let down for us, when we understand something of the infinite sacrifice that Christ has made in our behalf, the heart is melted with tenderness and contrition.” Steps to Christ, p. 24.