

## TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

**Daily Devotional:** Verses for meditation and application.

**Sunday:** What is my starting point in life? Am I created for God or He for me?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20. What are the implications for your life?

**Monday:** Psalm 23 The sovereign God of the universe is my shepherd

**Tuesday:** Acts 20:28 Christ purchased us with His own blood

**Wednesday:** Philippians 4:6,7 prayer leads to peace of God

**Thursday:** Colossians 4:2 prayer is to be a priority

**Friday:** 2 Peter 3:9 God's desire is that we repent

**Saturday:** Psalm 51 Convicted of adultery and murder – David's Response

### *Scripture memory for the Week:*

**2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)**

*The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*

### *Thoughts on Repentance*

Today we do not hear a lot about the need for biblical repentance. How important is it? Both John the Baptist and Jesus Christ started their public ministry by calling people to repentance. In the Bible we see repent/repentance mentioned 61 times.

Repentance is more than just a change of mind; it is a change of heart.

Repentance is an inward response, not external activity, but its fruit will be evident in the true believer's behavior.

Repentance is a basic change in one's attitude toward God.

Repentance recognizes error, debt and failure which brings change.

Turning from sin is called repentance; turning to Christ is called faith.

*Repentance is a heartfelt sorrow for sin, a renouncing of it, and a sincere commitment to forsake it and walk in obedience to Christ.*

## Laying a Foundation for 2008

### *Lessons from the Life of King David*

How will you live in the year to come? Are there things you can do now that will change your life for the better? King David's life offers us three lessons that can profoundly impact us.

### **Starting Point: How Do You Look At the World?**

### **Practicing Prayer**

### **Changing My Mind – Changing My Life**

## Questions for Personal or Group Study

### Opener:

Have you ever approached a problem only to discover you needed to change your perspective to solve it?

### Starting Point: How Do You Look At the World?

Laying a solid foundation for the New Year will require intellectual exertion on your part. You will need to spend time asking serious questions. The answers you discover may not be the ones you want. Indeed the first question is whether you believe God wants His best for you. Will you benefit from studying God's Word? As you interact with Scripture you will start to uncover true significance.

What is my starting point in life?

Am I created for God or He for me?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20.

What are the implications for your life?

In what ways do you demonstrate your dependence on God?

### Practicing Prayer

To whom do we pray?

Why should we pray?

How did prayer in David's life show his dependence on God?

Does your prayer life show an active interaction with a living God or is it more of a 911 pattern?

### Changing My Mind – Changing My Life

Why is the topic of repentance not very popular?

### Repentance: A CHANGE OF MIND TOWARD GOD AND SIN THAT *RESULTS IN A CHANGE OF LIFE*.

What are three things that stand out in this definition of repentance?

Agree/Disagree: Repentance is really not so much what you turn away from (sinful behavior) as what you turn toward (God).

Read Psalm 51. What do you learn about God?

What do you learn about yourself?

What insights come to the surface on repentance?

*Personal:* What in your life do need to deal with this week?

Repentance is to leave the sin  
That we had loved before.  
And show that we are grieved by it  
By doing it no more.

Can you write a second verse?