



DEVOTIONAL

Living Out the Kingdom | Repentance, Faith and Mission

RECEIVE

Slowly. Prayerfully, read out loud **Mark 1:14**. Before and after each reading, pause for a moment of silence. In that silence pray asking the Spirit of Christ to guide you into knowing and living what you are receiving from the Scripture. Consider what God wants you to reflect upon and learn.

REFLECT

1. What areas in your life do you need to experience a paradigm shift in your thinking?
2. How can you deepen your trust and faith in God in practical ways?
3. How can you actively participate in extending the Kingdom of God in your community?

RESPOND

Heavenly Father, help me to respond wholeheartedly to Jesus' call to repent and believe. May my life align with the values of your Kingdom and that I may boldly proclaim through words and actions the good news to those around us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

REMEMBER

1. Embrace a lifestyle of repentance, continually turning away from sin and toward God.
2. Cultivate a deeper faith and trust in God, surrendering every area of your life to Him.
3. Proclaim the Good News of God's Kingdom through both words and actions.

SCRIPTURE

MARK 1:14 | New International Version

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The Kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

OVERVIEW | Jesus preached that the Kingdom of God is near. To realize this good news in a tangible and complete way, Jesus gives a call to action: Repent and Believe. The Greek word for repent is 'metanoia'. It is more than a confession of sins. It calls for a paradigm shift in thinking that impacts our way of life. And 'pisteuo', Greek for believe, is a call to place total trust and faith in God. It is both an intellectual conviction of truth causing a change of the inner self, resulting in a counter-cultural way of life and a surrender of the entire human personality to and upon God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom and goodness.

Our repentance and belief, while a personal transformation, have greater ramifications for the extension of the Kingdom of God. Not only do our priorities and values align with God's Kingdom, but we become proponents of its manifestation in the world around. The Kingdom quest becomes our ultimate goal. Our ultimate mission then is to seek the Kingdom of God and to embed the values of His Kingdom deep within our communities. It is a mission that extends far beyond the walls of our churches or the boundaries of our personal lives. Instead, it reaches into the very heart of society, seeking to transform it according to God's divine blueprint.



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