

# Judah: Go Back to God

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

We all have regrets about past mistakes. Sometimes, our regrets are so deep that we're at a loss for what we should do next. In the Bible, we learn of two ways that we can respond to our failures: genuine repentance or mere remorse. Let's unpack the difference between genuine and counterfeit repentance through the lives of two men: Judas Iscariot and Judah, son of Jacob.

## What is fake repentance?

Judas Iscariot was one of Jesus' twelve disciples. He ate with Jesus, witnessed Jesus' love, teachings, and miracles firsthand, and yet, Judas still betrayed Him for thirty pieces of silver – no more than the price of a slave (Matthew 26:14-16). Though he was later filled with regret and returned the money, Judas did not seek forgiveness. Instead of running to the Lord, he ran away from Him, choosing instead to end his life in despair (Matthew 27:3-5).

Judas' response illustrates fake repentance, which is merely remorse over the consequences of sin rather than a true return to God. Because Judas' heart had been hardened by sin, he was unable to fully grasp the grace that Jesus offers. More than regret, true repentance is a complete change of heart that leads us back to God and His salvation (2 Corinthians 7:10).

## What is true repentance?

Judah, the son of Jacob and Leah, was no stranger to making terrible mistakes. Out of jealousy, Judah and his brothers sold Joseph, their younger brother, into slavery (Genesis 37:26-28). In the years that followed, Judah and his brothers covered up their sin and deceived their father who continued to mourn

and refused to be comforted (Genesis 37:31-35). Judah's mistakes didn't stop there, though. Later in his life, Judah fathered a child with Tamar, his widowed daughter-in-law (Genesis 38:25). This time, however, instead of hiding his sin like he did with his father, Judah admitted to his wrongdoing, which led to a crucial turning point in his life (Genesis 38:26). Unlike Judas, Judah embraced true repentance, which spurred on a transformation in his heart and actions.

## The Road to True Repentance

Twenty-one years after selling Joseph into slavery, Judah faced an important decision when he and his brothers traveled to Egypt to buy grain. Joseph, who was now second in command in Egypt, secretly tested his brothers, demanding that Benjamin be brought to him. Not only did Judah offer himself as the surety for Benjamin (Genesis 43:8-9), but he also intervened and offered himself up to be Joseph's slave in Benjamin's place (Genesis 44:32-34). Judah chose love over self-interest, willing to lose everything so that he could make up for the wrong things he had done. These actions led to reconciliation with Joseph and the restoration of their family. Ultimately, God honored Judah's true repentance, making him an ancestor of Jesus Christ (Genesis 49:8-10). True repentance seeks God's mercy and restoration, which results in a transformed heart and actions, and leads to life.

## last week's memory verse

Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

ISAIAH 55:7

## discuss this message

- What have you learned about the difference of REMORSE and REPENTANCE?
- Have you ever repented to God about something in your life? How did He lead you to a breakthrough after humbling yourself to Him?
- What is one encouragement you can share with others after hearing this message?

WATCH THE CONCISE  
VERSION OF THIS MESSAGE:

[https://go.ccf.org.ph/  
RunThrough](https://go.ccf.org.ph/RunThrough)

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY'S  
4WS EVERY MONDAY!

[ccf.org.ph/4ws/](https://ccf.org.ph/4ws/)



# Are you sure of your life choices? Let's talk about it.

See you at the Welcome Center!

## STEP INTO the community




Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

### WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN

#### Release: Unleashing God's Abundant Blessings

**Session 8: How-To: Experience  
"Keep Me from Evil"** with Dawn Urquico  
April 10, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED ONLINE



  ccfwomen2women  
 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

### B1G MINISTRY SINGLES

#### Hello, Work, Again: Seeing Work through the Perspective of the Ultimate Boss

**Session 4: SLR, E-meet with the CMO**  
April 11, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE



   B1GMinistry

### MOVEMEN+ ALL MEN 18 Y/O AND UP

#### Wicked Men (How NOT to Be Like Them)

April 12, Saturday, 2:00 PM, Room 2A

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE



  movingmentochrist

### NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

#### Here I Am: Answering God's Call in Faith

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM  
G/F CCF Center (ages 4-12)

**ZOOM:** for ages 7-12; 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM  
message us on Facebook to sign-up

**ONLINE:** Bible Lesson Video Premiere  
9:00 AM at   ccfnxtgen



June 5 to 7, CCF Center

**TICKETS:**

PHP800 for commitment card holders  
PHP1,000 for regular tickets

Get your tickets at any CCF Satellite  
or online at [moveconference.org.ph](http://moveconference.org.ph)

## LEARN MORE about our faith

### Be GLC-Equipped in your Discipleship Journey!

**GLC LEVEL 1 — Be a Disciple**

Book 1: One by One, Session 3

**ONSITE:** April 6, Sunday  
10:30 AM, 2/F Annex Bldg.

**ZOOM:** April 9, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines, Session 3

**ONSITE:** April 6, Sunday  
1:30 PM, 2/F Annex Bldg.

**ZOOM:** April 9, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

**GLC LEVEL 2 — Be a Discipier**

Book 7: Family Life, Session 8

**ONSITE:** April 6, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 3A  
**ZOOM:** April 10, Thursday, 7:30 PM

**How to Facilitate a Dgroup Workshop**

**ONSITE:** April 13, Sunday, 1:30 PM

### Baptism Class and Rites

**CLASS:** April 13, Sunday  
1:30 PM, G/F Annex Bldg.

**RITEs:** April 20, Sunday  
1:30 PM, G/F Annex Bldg.

### Can't attend GLC F2F or GLC Zoom?

Use the Self-Paced Online format  
or do GLC in your DGroups!

BE PART OF GLC CLASSES AND  
EVENTS: [linktr.ee/ccfglc](http://linktr.ee/ccfglc)

YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here  
for His purpose.

### God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful  
life with Him in the present and gain  
eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God,  
He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps  
His covenant and His lovingkindness** to  
a thousandth generation with those who  
love Him and keep His commandments  
— Deuteronomy 7:9*

### God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us  
from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away from  
God's saving presence. — Romans 3:23*

### God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for  
us to be reconciled to Him: through His  
son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the  
cross for our sins and be raised to life for  
eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love  
toward us, in that while we were yet  
sinners, Christ died for us. Much more  
then, having now been justified by His  
blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of  
God through Him. — Romans 5:8*

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life;  
no one comes to the Father but through  
Me. — John 14:6*

### God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we  
are forgiven of our sins and saved from  
eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave  
His only begotten Son, that whoever  
believes in Him shall not perish, but have  
eternal life. — John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved through  
faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift  
of God; not as a result of works, so that no  
one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9*

**Would you like to place your faith in Jesus  
Christ today?**

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I  
am a sinner. I believe that You died on  
the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your  
help, I will turn away from my sins. Please  
come into my life and be my Savior and  
my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal  
life. Make me the kind of new person You  
want me to be. Thank You for giving me  
eternal life. Amen.

### God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life  
when you trust in Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has  
given us eternal life, and this life is in His  
Son. He who has the Son has the life; he  
who does not have the Son of God does  
not have the life. These things I have  
written to you who believe in the name of  
the Son of God, so that you may know that  
you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*



## Services at the CCF Center




### Saturdays

5:00 PM

### Sundays

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN,  
and 3:00 PM

### Online Livestream

 [ccf.org.ph](http://ccf.org.ph)  [ccfmain](https://www.facebook.com/ccfmain)  [ccfmainTV](https://www.youtube.com/ccfmainTV)  
9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

Visit [ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/](http://ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/) for TV and radio airing schedules.  
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