

Sermon Title: Repent and Believe

Take a second, close your eyes and picture what your room looked like as a child.

There was one thing on my wall that I didn't put up there but I still remember it today. It was a quote that said "attitude is everything, life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you **react** to it."

How did Israel react to their sin?

Chapter 4 and 5 God builds his case against Israel listing their sins and giving them an **ultimatum**, repent and turn back to me, or I will remove you from the promised land and remove my presence from you

Hosea 5:14-15

In the beginning of chapter 6 Hosea makes a plea to the people to repent so that they will avoid God's punishment. - **Hosea 6:1-3** (allusion to Jesus)

Then for the rest of chapters 6 and 7 God goes into a little more detail about what the people are doing that is fueling his anger toward them, and **we need to make sure that we are not doing the same things.**

Verse 4: Your love is like the morning mist, like the early dew that disappears.

Verse 6: For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.

Chapter 7 verse 1: They practice deceit, thieves break into houses, bandits rob in the streets; but they do not realize that I remember all their evil deeds.

Verse 3-4: They delight the king with their wickedness, the princes with their lies. **They are all adulterers.**

Verse 5: On the day of the festival of our king the princes become inflamed with wine, and he joins hands with the mockers.

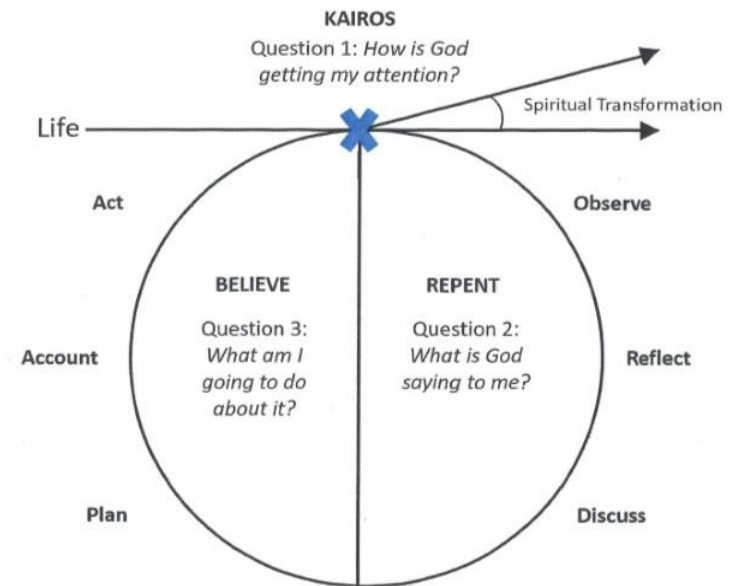
Verse 8: Ephraim mixes with the nations.

Verse 13: I long to redeem them but they speak lies against me.

What does it mean to repent and believe?

Repentance - Literally a change of mind, not about individual plans, intentions, or beliefs, but rather a **change in the whole personality from a sinful course of action to God.**

Belief - changing of your actions to show that change of mind.



Challenges:

1. I want you to practice this!
You can do this with someone in your small group, a member of your family, or call me or email me this week and I would be glad to listen as you discuss something with me.
2. **Focus on your attitude this week and how you react to things.**
3. Take some time this week and think about how you've reacted in the past to being told that you were doing something wrong.

Israel clearly did not listen to Hosea, they didn't listen to God, so ultimately, **they received the consequences of their actions leading to exile out of the Promised Land.** Let's learn from their mistakes and listen when God talks to us, let's repent of what He tells us is wrong, and then let's act on it and change just a little bit to be more like Jesus Christ.

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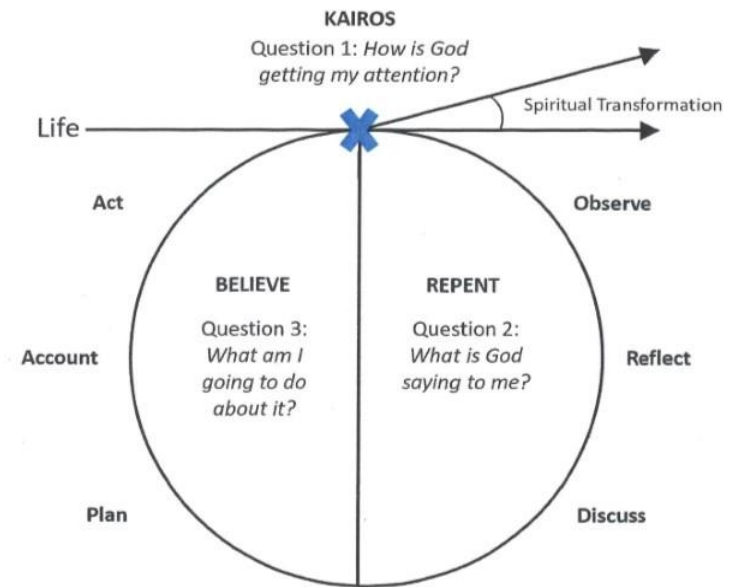
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