

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Finding Your Way Back To God
Message: I Wish I Could Start Over
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Have you found yourself in circumstances like the younger son, where you had big ideas and plans that fell apart and became a mess?

Did the mess lead you to being sorry? If so, what specifically were you sorry about?

Did you blame others instead of accepting responsibility for the part you played? (A focus on blaming others may make us feel better, but does nothing to help us get closer to God.)

What is the difference between being sorry and being repentant?

Repentance is a military term that means doing an about face – turning away from the direction we were heading and going toward another. God honoring repentance is when I accept my personal responsibility for the messes I have made and then choose to take action.

Think back to your answer(s) to the first question on this Take Home Sheet. What might some action steps of repentance look like?

The first place to go in repentance is to God, who can and will forgive anyone who genuinely asks. Here are some passages that reinforce God's invitation for us to turn toward Him:

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9 (NIV)

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. ¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him...
Psalm 103:11-13 (NIV)

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BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NIV – New International Version