

► Outline

Today's Message based on 1 Samuel 7:1-17.

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,
Acts 3:19 (NIV)

A. Introduction

(1 Samuel 7:1-2)

Repentance = *mētanoïa*; “to think _____”

B. Returning to God includes...

(1 Samuel 7:3-17)

1. _____.
(1 Samuel 7:3-6. C/R: Joel 2:12-13; Romans 2:4;
2 Corinthians 7:10; 1 John 1:8-9; 5:21)

2. _____ on God.
(1 Samuel 7:7-11. C/R: 2 Chronicles 7:14;
Psalm 51:16-17; Romans 12:1)

3. _____ and _____.
(1 Samuel 7:12-17. C/R: Joshua 4:1-9; Psalm 66:16-20;
Matthew 3:8; Ephesians 2:10)

Answers: A. differently B. 1. Repentance 2. Reliance 3. Remembrance, response

Resource Information: Unless otherwise noted, outline and onscreen verses are from NLT version (New Living Translation) of *The Holy Bible*. C/R, if noted, refers to a 'cross reference' of Scripture verse(s). Today's outline and discussion guide are available to mobile device users through the Brookwood Church app available through your favorite app store.

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide with friends or on your own to pursue your relationship with Jesus. Take time to reflect, learn and talk with God. Find a Small Group at brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups.

Conversation Starter

The farthest I have felt from God was _____.

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [1 Samuel 7:1-6](#).

1. Why did it seem to Israel that the Lord had abandoned them?
2. What are some ways the people showed they were serious about returning to the Lord?
3. What are examples of *foreign gods* in our day?
4. What pulls you away from God the most? What do you think God wants you to know and do about this?

Read [1 Samuel 7:7-14](#).

5. Sometimes God comes through for us in very tangible, visible ways. It's not difficult to believe in and love God during those times. But how can we remain faithful to God when it seems like He has abandoned us?
6. In what way is God's love **unconditional**?
See [Romans 5:6-11](#); [Ephesians 1:4-8](#).
7. In what way is God's love **conditional**?
See [John 3:35-36](#); [1 Peter 2:21-25](#); [1 John 2:2-6](#).

Communicate with God

Ask God these questions, then listen quietly for His response.

8. God, what are You saying to Brookwood Church from this passage? What's the main truth You want us to know?
9. As a member of this church family, how do You want me to respond to what You're saying? What steps do You want me to take?

Soul Training

Sometime this week find a quiet place, close your eyes, and listen to a worship song or two. Return to God with all your heart. Ask Him to refresh your soul.

If you're not sure what to listen to, try these:

- *Your Love Defends Me*, Matt Maher
- *Grace That Won't Let Go*, Gateway Worship
- *Fierce*, Jesus Culture
- *Do It Again*, Elevation Worship
- *God I Look To You*, Francesca Battistelli

Memory Verse

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

[Acts 3:19 NIV](#)

Daily Reading

Day 1: [1 Samuel 7:1-6](#)

Day 4: [Jeremiah 24:6-7](#)

Day 2: [1 Samuel 7:7-14](#)

Day 5: [Ephesians 2:8-10](#)

Day 3: [1 John 5:20-21](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, February 25, we'll continue our series *Belonging to God: The Life of Samuel*. To prepare for the message, spend a few quiet moments reading [1 Samuel 8:1-22](#).