Last week – The Messenger – Controlled by Love – does not live for himself – endures trials that build character
and a hope that will not disappoint.

Week 4 of 24/7 Life: Beyond the Walls – The Message

2 Cor. 5:19 NLT “For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against
them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.”

What is the message?

To a lost people burdened by their religion, Jesus said “repent.”
Matt 4:17

To devout Jews who are moved by Peter’s message and ask the question, “what should we do?” – Acts 2:38-39

Religious repentance/sorrowfulness
Webster’s New World College Dictionary defines repentance as, “being penitent; feeling of sorrow, especially for
wrongdoing; contrition; remorse.”

Biblical repentance
To change one’s mind. To understand the power of considering and judging soberly, calmly and impartially.
Intimate knowledge.
So, when Jesus and Peter proclaim that we religious people should repent…?
What does that look like?

1. Religion – I have to go to church, or else God will punish me.
Relationship – I get to go to church. It’s my family where love and encouragement are the language we speak. 2
Cor. 5:16; Heb. 10:22-25.

2. Religion – I have to “do right,” for God to accept me.
Relationship – I’ve been made right and God’s goodness and mercy overtake me.
Ps. 23:6.

3. Religion – I have to stop sinning for God to love me.
Relationship – I know HIM. Sin’s power has been broken over me and each day is an adventure in God’s love &
righteousness. 1 John 4:9-11

To address the difference in religious repentance/sorrow and biblical repentance, we have to look at the power of
GODLY SORROW.

Godly sorrow – toils and works to change your mind. This leads you to a place of rescue and safety with no regret.

2 Cor. 7:9-10 NIV

Godly sorrow produces repentance, salvation, and LIFE!
v11

An eagerness to make things right.

Anger caused by something that is unfair or wrong.
A sense of urgency and awe. The fear and honor of God.

Earnest (vehement) desire. To be righteous.

Zeal, favorable concern. To bring to a boil.

To vindicate one’s right; justified.

T.I.F.A.W.
2 Cor. 5:20 So we are Christ’s ambassadors; (older brother, senior, a representative) God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!” v21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.