

## Repentance: Humble Confessions

Series: *First Things First*  
– Nehemiah 9 –

The path to real **REJOICING** goes through  
the valley of **SORROW OVER SIN**.

### 1. The Valley of Sorrow

*“Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.” (II Cor. 7:10)*

\* **GODLY SORROW IS FIRST VERTICAL**,

**THEN HORIZONTAL**.

### 2. The Path of Joy

*“But in Your great mercy You did not put an end to them or abandon them, for You are a gracious and merciful God.” (Neh. 9:31)*

#### Application Questions. . .

1. What part of the text or message had the greatest impact on you? Where were you most encouraged, intrigued, or challenged?
2. In 8:7-8 we see the Word being read *and* taught. How has the reading of God’s Word spurred you on in your spiritual renewal? What about the preaching and teaching of God’s Word? Give examples.
3. The Word caused the people to mourn. What role does sorrow play in genuine repentance? How are *godly* and *worldly* sorrow different?
4. What is repentance? Is it a one-time event, a lifestyle or both? What role should God’s Word play in our confession and repentance? What role should prayer play?
5. What sin have you grieved and repented of that still needs you to respond with renewed faithfulness? What one step can you take this week to not merely stop sinning but start obeying?
6. God’s mercy and covenant love will be shown to His people despite their past, present and future disobedience. How have you witnessed the steadfast love of the Lord in your own life?

