

Bible Study Guide: The Time Is Now – Repentance and the Kingdom of God

 Source Transcript:

Big Idea

The arrival of Jesus brings a call to immediate response—repentance and belief that leads to a transformed life and entry into God’s kingdom.

Theme

Lent is a season of decisive change, calling us to turn away from sin and toward Christ, embracing the new life He offers through repentance and faith.

Core Scripture

Mark 1:15

“The time has come... The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Introduction: A Moment That Demands a Response

Jesus declares:

- The time is fulfilled
- The kingdom is near

Key Insight:

“The presence of Jesus demands a response—you cannot stay the same.”

The Urgency

This is not:

- A suggestion

This is:

- A call to action
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Main Point 1: The Time Is Now

Explanation

Jesus says:

- “The time is fulfilled”

Spiritual Truth

There is:

- No delay

- No waiting

“Don’t wait another moment.”

Application

- What am I putting off?
- Where do I need to act now?

Sticky Quote:

“Delayed obedience is missed opportunity.”

Main Point 2: The Kingdom of God Is Near

Explanation

God’s kingdom:

- Is present
- Is active

Spiritual Truth

Through Jesus:

- Heaven comes near

“Jesus is in your midst.”

Application

- Do I recognize God’s presence?

- How is He working in my life?

Sticky Quote:

“The kingdom is closer than you think.”

Main Point 3: Repentance Is a Call to Change Direction

Explanation

Repentance means:

- Turning around
- Changing direction

Spiritual Truth

It is:

- Not just regret
- But transformation

“We need to go in a different direction.”

Application

- What direction am I heading?
- What needs to change?

Sticky Quote:

“Repentance is a new direction.”

Main Point 4: The Gospel Requires a Response

Explanation

The good news:

- Is not passive

Spiritual Truth

It demands:

- Action
- Commitment

“The good news demands a response.”

Application

- How am I responding to Jesus?
- Am I actively following Him?

Sticky Quote:

“The gospel calls for action.”

Main Point 5: Belief Is More Than Agreement

Explanation

Belief means:

- Trust
- Surrender
- Commitment

Spiritual Truth

True belief:

- Changes your life

“Believe and receive Christ.”

Application

- Do I truly trust Jesus?
- What does my life show?

Sticky Quote:

“Real belief changes how you live.”

Main Point 6: Jesus Is the Only One Who Can Change You

Explanation

Transformation:

- Comes through Christ

Spiritual Truth

We cannot:

- Fix ourselves

Jesus:

- Changes hearts

“He is the only one who can change your heart.”

Application

- Am I trying to change on my own?
- Am I surrendering to Jesus?

Sticky Quote:

“Transformation begins with Christ.”

Main Point 7: Repentance Leads to New Life

Explanation

Turning to Christ:

- Opens a new path

Spiritual Truth

Repentance:

- Leads to freedom
- Leads to life

“Begin to live a different life.”

Application

- What new life is God offering me?
- Am I stepping into it?

Sticky Quote:

“Repentance unlocks new life.”

Main Point 8: Letting Go Is Necessary

Explanation

We must release:

- Sin
- Control
- Old habits

“Let go of what you’ve been holding onto.”

Spiritual Truth

You cannot:

- Hold onto both the old and the new

Application

- What am I holding onto?

- What do I need to release?

Sticky Quote:

“You must release to receive.”

Main Point 9: Following Jesus Is a Willing Choice

Explanation

Jesus invites:

- Not forces

Spiritual Truth

Faith requires:

- Willingness
- Surrender

“Follow Him willingly.”

Application

- Am I following willingly?
- Or reluctantly?

Sticky Quote:

“Willing hearts walk with Jesus.”

Main Point 10: Lent Is a Season of Response

Explanation

Lent:

- Calls for change
- Invites action

Spiritual Truth

This season is:

- A turning point

“Lent leads you into new life.”

Application

- How am I responding this Lent?
- What is God asking me to do?

Sticky Quote:

“Lent is your moment to respond.”

Discussion Questions

1. What is God calling you to change right now?
2. What does repentance mean in your life?
3. How do you respond to the urgency of Jesus’ message?

4. What are you holding onto that needs to be released?
 5. How can you actively follow Christ today?
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Practical Application Steps

1. Respond Immediately

- Don't delay

2. Repent Honestly

- Turn from sin

3. Believe Fully

- Trust Jesus completely

4. Let Go of the Old

- Release what holds you back

5. Step into New Life

- Follow Christ daily
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Closing Prayer

Father,
Thank You for calling us
into new life.

Help us to respond today,
to repent fully,
and to believe deeply.

Transform our hearts
and lead us into Your kingdom.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Final Takeaway

The time is now—repent, believe, and step into the new life Jesus is offering you today.