

ALTARED

Scriptures Used:

- Ecclesiastes 4:12
- 2 Chronicles 7:14
- Matthew 3:11
- 1 Samuel 13:8–11
- 1 Samuel 12:14
- 1 Samuel 14:35
- 1 Samuel 14:38–39
- 2 Samuel 12:9
- 2 Samuel 12:13
- Psalm 51:1–4
- Psalm 51:10–13
- Psalm 51:17
- 1 Samuel 24:5–6



Altared – Week 2: An Altar of Repentance

“A threefold cord is not easily broken.” — *Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NLT)*

Big Idea:

True repentance is more than regret—it’s surrender. When paired with worship and sacrifice, it builds a spiritual life that’s strong, connected, and transformative.



1. The Purpose of Repentance

“I baptize with water those who repent... but one is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”

— *Matthew 3:11 (NLT)*

- Repentance is the starting point for a Spirit-filled life.
- It allows God to remove what doesn't belong.

 **Illustration:** Repentance is spiritual anesthesia—it makes healing and correction possible without unnecessary pain.

2. Two Kings, Two Responses

King Saul: Religion Without Repentance

- Acted in fear and impatience (1 Samuel 13)
- Used an altar he didn't build (1 Samuel 14:35)
- Refused to own his sin (1 Samuel 14:38)

“You have not kept the command of the Lord... your kingdom must end.”

— *1 Samuel 13:13–14*

King David: Sin, Confrontation, and Sincere Repentance

- Confessed: ***“I have sinned against the Lord.”*** (2 Samuel 12:13)
- Mourned, fasted, and sought God
- Wrote ***Psalms 51*** — a model prayer of repentance

“Create in me a clean heart, O God...”

— *Psalms 51:10 (ESV)*

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit...”

— *Psalms 51:17 (ESV)*

3. What Real Repentance Looks Like

- **Not just avoiding consequences—but turning your heart.**
- **Not longing for the past—but burying what once defined you.**
- **Leads to restoration, testimony, and deeper joy.**

 **Charles Spurgeon:**

“If I hate sin because of the punishment, I have not repented; I merely regret that God is just.”

4. The Call to Build

“If My people... will humble themselves... turn from their wicked ways... I will hear from heaven.”

— *2 Chronicles 7:14 (NLT)*

- **The altar isn’t a whipping post—it’s where transformation happens.**
 - **When we build an Altar of Repentance, God responds with mercy, healing, and restoration.**
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 **Reflection Question:**

What is God asking you to lay down on the altar today?

