

Conversion
Mark 1:14-15

Main Point:

Having been converted to Jesus Christ, continue to grow in your repentance and faith.

1. Conversion necessarily follows effectual calling.
2. The first part of conversion is repentance unto life.
3. The second part of conversion is faith in Jesus Christ.
4. In order to be saved, you must both repent and believe.
5. Having been converted to Jesus Christ, continue to grow in your repentance and faith.

Acts 16:14 ¹⁴ Now a certain woman named Lydia heard *us*. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. (NKJV)

Definition: Conversion is that act of God whereby He causes the regenerated, in their conscious life, to turn to Him in repentance and faith.

Acts 3:19 ¹⁹ "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, (NKJV)

WSC 87 What is repentance unto life? A. Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavour after, new obedience.

Romans 3:20 ²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin. (NKJV)

2 Corinthians 7:8-10 ⁸ For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it. For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while. ⁹ Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. ¹⁰ For godly sorrow produces repentance *leading* to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. (NKJV)

Henry Smith "The wicked do but weep for their sins past, but the godly purpose to sin no more."

Acts 16:31 ³¹ So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." (NKJV)

WSC 86 What is faith in Jesus Christ? A. Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.

Romans 10:14 ¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? (NKJV)

James 2:19 ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe-- and tremble! (NKJV)

RPCNA Testimony 14.7 We reject the concept that saving faith is merely agreeing that the Bible is historically accurate, and that the doctrines of the Bible are true.

John Rogers "Weak faith is true faith – as precious, though not so great as strong faith: the same Holy Ghost the author, the same Gospel the instrument ... For it is not the strength of our faith that saves, but the truth of our faith – not the weakness of our faith that condemns, but the want – of faith."

RPCNA Testimony 15.1 Repentance leads to eternal life only when it is accompanied by faith in Christ.

Acts 11:18 ¹⁸ When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life." (NKJV)

Ephesians 2:8-9 ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. (NKJV)

RPCNA Testimony 14.1 Saving faith is the gift of the triune God. It is the Father's will that the elect should be united to Christ by faith. The Son, by His death, provided that saving faith should be freely granted to them. The Holy Spirit, therefore, regenerates each one of them, enabling them to receive Jesus Christ by faith as their Lord and Savior.

WCF 14.1 The grace of faith, whereby the elect are enabled to believe to the saving of their souls, is the work of the Spirit of Christ in their hearts, and is ordinarily wrought by the ministry of the Word: by which also, and by the administration of the sacraments, and prayer, it is increased and strengthened.

RPCNA Testimony 15.2 Although a believer is freed from the penalty of sin by justification, he is still bound to give perfect obedience to God's law. Because of incomplete sanctification he is unable to do this, but daily breaks the commands of God in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, all men are in continual need of repentance.

WCF 15.5 "Men ought not to content themselves with a general repentance, but it is every man's duty to endeavour to repent of his particular sins particularly."