

Lent: Forty Days of Renewal
Joel 2:12-17

The concept of repentance seems to be lost in a generation that believes it does no wrong. For some, repentance is a simple apology. For some, repentance is feeling guilty. Even if we embrace a biblical concept of repentance and forgiveness, deep down inside we wonder if there are certain actions that God may or may not forgive.

1. The call to _____
 - A. It is a kingdom _____
 - B. It is a kingdom _____
2. The prayer of _____
 - A. The _____ of the prayer
 - B. The _____ of the prayer
 - C. The _____ to the prayer
3. The conditions for _____
 - A. _____
 - B. _____

This Easter season may we be _____ by our own sinfulness,
_____ by the ultimate sacrifice of our Lord Jesus, and
_____ by His resurrection and the hope it provides.

Reasons to Observe Lent

1. Lent _____ my routine
2. Lent helps me _____ Jesus' teaching on fasting
3. Lent _____ me to celebrate Easter

Lent helps reflect on the price that was paid for our sin. But Lent also helps us remember the grace that is offered through the cross. Lent shows us how weak we are but reveals how strong God is. We enter into the season of Lent with the hope and expectation of God's forgiveness and redemption. No matter what goes wrong in life, God is always willing to give us another chance.

Reflection

Here are some suggestions for observing Lent. 1) Fast – Find something to give up for the next 46 days. 2) Study – Spend intentional time studying God's Word. 3) Serve – Find somewhere to serve, either a ministry in the church or community. 4) Worship – Take time to worship in community with other believers. 5) Give – Make it a priority during Lent to financially support the work of the kingdom through the church.