

Sacred Journey: From Death to Life | February 18, 2024

The Call to Repentance and Reflection:

Joel 2:12-13, Luke 13:1-5, and 2 Corinthians 5:20



Joel 2:12-13

- Despite bad events (**war** Joel 2:5 and **locusts** Joel 2:25), turn (*return*) to the Lord
- rend your hearts and not your garments
 - It is about the **heart** (*internal*), not the **appearance**. (*external*).

Verse	Gracious (חַנּוּן)	Merciful (רַחוּם)	Slow to Anger (אֶרְךָ אַפַּיִם)	Abounding in Steadfast Love (רַב-חַסֶּד)	Relenting from Disaster (נָחַם)
Exodus 34:6	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Numbers 14:18			✓	✓	
Nehemiah 9:17	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Psalms 86:15	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Psalms 103:8	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Psalms 145:8	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Joel 2:13	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jonah 4:2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nahum 1:3			✓		
Micah 7:18				✓	

Ontario Community Church: Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.

John 6:47 (ESV) “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.”

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Luke 13:1-5

- People asking Christ about the **two** bad events: *who* is the *worse* sinner? / what sin did they commit?
 - Galileans killed during their sacrifice
 - The tower in Siloam killing 18 people
- Repent¹(ance²): To change your mind | **Meta**noia² / **Meta**noeō¹
 - **Meta**: beyond / to change
 - **Noia/noeō**: Mind
 - Idea: change your mind (*about Christ* by believing in him), instead of focusing on who's sin is greater.

Note: **Meta**noia² = Repentance | **Meta**noeō¹ = Repent

2 Corinthians 5:20

- Ambassador: Representative of Christ
- Reconciled: Changed / Exchanged / *to be made right*
- Idea. As ambassadors of Christ, implore (beg) for others to be right with Christ.

Understanding Mark 1:15: "... **repent** and **believe** in the gospel."

- Repent¹: **Meta**noeō¹ (**Meta**noia²) | Change your mind
- Believe: have faith / place your trust in / believe

Questions for reflection:

From Joel 2:12-13:

- *How can we return to God in the mist of trying times?*
- *What does it mean to rend our hearts in today's context?*

From Luke 13:1-5:

- *How can we care for those effected by tragedies?*
- *How can we change our hearts (repent) to God today?*

From 2 Corinthians 5:20:

- *How can we be an ambassador for Christ in our life?*
- *How can we encourage people to be right with God?*

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