Follow Me — and I Will Make You Fishers

(A Journey Through the Gospel of Luke)
"Repentance That Prepares the Way"
Luke 3
March 8, 2026
Pastor David Bardowell

Big Idea: Before God multiplies His mission through us, He realigns our hearts to Him.

Disciple-Making Focus: Healthy disciple-makers are continually realigned through repentance.

I Repentance _____ **for the King** (vv. 3-6)

"Prepare the way for the Lord…" (Luke 3:4)

Key Truth:
Repentance removes whatever blocks Christ's reign in us.

II. Repentance _____ **Visible Fruit** (vv. 7-14)

"Produce fruit consistent with repentance." (Luke 3:8)

Key Truth:
Realignment with God becomes visible in relationships and conduct.

III. Repentance _____ **Us to Jesus and** _____ **Our Identity** (vv. 15-22)

"I am not the Messiah…" (John 1:20)

You are my beloved Son." (Luke 3:22)

Key Truth:
Secure identity in Christ fuels sustainable mission for Christ.

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Small Group Questions
Week 3 – Repentance That Prepares the Way

Luke 3

Icebreaker

- When you hear the word *repentance*, what comes to mind?
- How has your understanding of repentance changed over time?

Understanding (Head)

1. In Luke 3:3–6, John uses road-construction imagery. What might the "mountains," "valleys," or "crooked paths" represent in a person's life?
2. In verses 10–14, people ask, "What then shall we do?" Why does John give such practical instructions?
3. Why is it significant that the Father affirms Jesus' identity (vv. 21–22) before His public ministry begins?

Reflection (Heart)

4. What in your life currently needs "leveling" so Jesus can move more freely?
5. Is there an area where you sense conviction but have delayed action?
6. Are you living from secure identity — or striving to prove yourself?

Response (Hands & Mission)

7. If repentance produces visible fruit, what would that look like in one specific area of your life this week?
8. How does ongoing repentance strengthen your ability to disciple others?
9. What is one step of obedience you need to take — and how can this group support you?

Closing Prayer

Ask:
"Lord, what in me needs realignment so You can work through me?"
Pray for courage to respond — not just feel convicted.

Your voice matters. We'd love to hear what God is showing you through these questions. Please share your thoughts by emailing us at info@thegateoc.com — your insights will help shape the renewal and restoration of The Gate.