

Life Group Discussion Guide

Repentance from Dead Works (Hebrews 6:1–2)

♦ Opening

Welcome & Check-in

- How has your week been?
- Share one highlight and one challenge.

Opening Prayer

♦ Scripture Reading

Read together (you can divide among members):

- **Hebrews 6:1–2**
- **Ephesians 2:8–9**
- **John 14:6**
- **Hebrews 9:14**
- **Romans 3:22**

♦ Key Teaching Summary

- Repentance from dead works is a **foundation of the Christian life**, not just for unbelievers but for believers too.
- Repentance is not just saying sorry—it is a **heart transformation that leads to change**.
- Dead works include not only sin, but also **religious effort done to earn God's acceptance**.
- We are saved by **grace through faith, not by works**.
- Dead works come from **self-reliance**, while living works flow from **relationship with Christ**.
- True righteousness is **received, not achieved**.

♦ Discussion Questions

A. Understanding Dead Works

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. How would you define “dead works” in your own words?
3. In what ways can dead works show up in:
 - An unbeliever's life?
 - A believer's life?

B. Appearance vs Reality

4. Why can dead works sometimes look spiritual or impressive?

5. Have you ever found yourself doing “good things” for the wrong reasons (e.g., guilt, pressure, pride)?
6. Why is it dangerous to rely on “being a good person”? (Isaiah 64:6)

♥ C. Relationship vs Religion

7. What does it mean to live from **relationship rather than performance**?
8. How did Jesus model dependence on the Father? (John 5:30)
9. What is the difference between:
 - Obeying to be accepted
 - Obeying because you are already accepted?

⚠ D. The Danger of Self-Righteousness

10. Why is self-righteousness so deceptive?
11. What are subtle signs of self-righteousness in our lives?
12. How does Philippians 3:9 challenge our understanding of righteousness?

✝ E. Grace and True Righteousness

13. What does it mean that righteousness is **credited to us by faith**?
14. Why is it important to understand that:
 - Good works are the **fruit**, not the **root**, of salvation?
15. How does Hebrews 9:14 speak to our conscience and freedom from dead works?

📖 F. Personal Application

16. Where in your life are you tempted to:
 - Strive?
 - Perform?
 - Prove yourself?
17. What would it look like for you to **repent from dead works this week**?
18. How can you grow in living from grace and relationship with Jesus?

Practical Application

Encourage each person to choose one:

- Identify one area of “dead works” (performance, guilt, striving).
- Replace it with a **truth from Scripture** (e.g., Ephesians 2:8–9)
- Take one step toward **relationship over religion** (e.g., quiet prayer, worship, listening to God)

◆ Prayer Time

Suggested prayer focus:

- Repentance from striving and self-reliance
- Receiving grace and righteousness in Christ
- Freedom from guilt and performance mindset
- Renewed relationship with the Father

Optional reflection prayer:

“Lord, I lay down my striving. I receive Your grace. Teach me to live from relationship, not performance.”

◆ Closing Thought

“Dead works say, ‘Try harder.’

Grace says, ‘Come nearer.’”