

# Obeying Jesus

7 Commands  
for Every Disciple

**Week 1 | Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus**

# Obeying Jesus – Series Focus

- In his last moments on earth with his core disciples, Jesus said, “Go and make disciples... teaching them to obey all that I have commanded” (Matt 28:18-20)
- So, what are these commands that sincere, authentic followers of Jesus should be obeying?
- In our **Obeying Jesus: 7 Commands for Every Disciple** series, we will look closely at those teachings and practices that Jesus presented as basic and foundational to faithfully following him as his disciples in the world
- 7 Commands: repent & believe, baptism, communion, loving God & neighbor, prayer, giving, and making disciples

## **Mark 1:14-15 NIV**

<sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

# Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

- Jesus gave his would-be disciples the command to “repent and believe” the good news (Mk 1:15)
- What does Jesus mean in his call to repent? And what is the “good news” we are being told to believe?
- This morning we will find that if we want to truly know it as “good” news, we must first be willing to repent
- In *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* (1 of 7), you’re invited to hear the challenge of Jesus for us to change our minds, to turn from our sin, and to accept that he is Lord of our lives—the Kingdom come in the flesh.

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**Jesus, Mk 1:15**

- **“The time has come”** – the *καιρὸς (kairos)* is now; the decisive moment in God’s story is about to be realized; God is fulfilling his age-long purpose in Jesus
- **“kingdom of God”** – the reign and rule of God; a shorthand for Israel’s story, when God becomes king
- **“Repent and believe”** – repent is to change, turn from sin and turn (or return) to God’s divine purposes; & believe (*pisteuo*) is to TRUST in the good news!
- **“good news”** – the *εὐαγγελίῳ (euangelion)* is defined by Jesus in the Gospels as the fulfillment of God’s promises to save, redeem, and bring heaven to earth

## **Luke 5:31-32 NLT**

<sup>31</sup> Jesus answered them, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do. <sup>32</sup> I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent.”

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

**2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV**

“But if you turn away and forsake the decrees and commands I have given you and go off to serve other gods and worship them, then I will uproot Israel from my land, which I have given them, and will reject this temple I have consecrated for my Name. I will make it a byword and an object of ridicule among all peoples.”

**2 Chronicles 7:19-20 NIV**



# Faithful to Repent & Believe

How do we turn our eyes upon Jesus in order that we might see and obey his commands to repent and believe?

**1. Look to the Jesus of the Gospels.**

(Jesus speaks tough things, but he loves harder.)

**2. Listen to his voice for yourself and for others.**

(What is God saying to you about repentance?)

**3. Learn to follow him in private and in public.**

(Repentance happens in community, not in isolation.)


“Make this your common practice:  
Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other  
so that you can live together whole and healed.”

**James 5:16 MSG**

# Turning Our Eyes Upon Jesus

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” reflection questions:

1. Are there areas in your life that you may be turning your eyes more to your flesh and culture for your cues? In other words, where might Jesus part ways with you?
2. What specific struggle in your life is Christ inviting you to repent and believe the good news of the Kingdom?
3. What radical step of obedience is God asking you to take to in order that you might walk in his peace? Will you take that step today and obey his word?



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Sermon audio & slides in PDF can be downloaded at:  
[www.christiansburgmennonite.org](http://www.christiansburgmennonite.org)