

PSALM 51
CONFESSION
8-18-24

I. APPEAL

Psalm 51:1-2 – “Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!”

A. For God’s Mercy

~ The Appeal for Mercy presupposes our guilt

B. For God’s Cleansing

~ The Appeal for cleansing invites God to wash us

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Psalm 51:3-6 – “For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. ⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. ⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. ⁶Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.”

A. David understands His sin...He is not ignorant

B. Theology of Sin

1. Sin is pervasive
2. Sin is an affront to God
3. God is the judge of Sin
4. Sin is old

III. ASK

Psalm 51:7-12 – “Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. ⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.”

A. Purge me

B. Create in me

C. Cast me not

D. Restore my joy

IV. ACTION

Psalm 51:13-17 – “Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. ¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. ¹⁶ For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.”

A. Our forgiveness motivates our Gospel witness to others

B. God wants our hearts not our actions

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. Why is confession an important aspect of a believers walk with Christ?
3. How would you describe Davids’s view of sin in Psalm 51? What are some of the words he uses to describe sin? What do these words tell us about sin’s nature?
4. What does Davids’s understanding of his sin tell us about his view of God?
5. How can honest confession of our sin to God lead us to joy like David had?
6. READ 1 JOHN 1:9...What is the result of our confession of sin?
7. Our sin debt is paid in full by Jesus on the cross...But, how does confessing our sin help us kill sin in our lives?
8. What is one point of application from the message that you can take with you this week?

PRAYING THE PSALM

- Praise God that Jesus wonderfully purchased forgiveness for us on the cross
- Pray and ask God to make you sensitive to your sin and its effects on your spiritual walk.
- Ask God to utilize your understanding of His great forgiveness to motivate your Gospel witness.
- Spend some time in prayer confessing sin to the Lord so you can kill it and be conformed more and more to Christ’s image!
 - Ask God to create a new heart in you