

Sermon Title: A Heart for God: A Broken and Contrite Heart

Sermon Scripture: Psalm 51:16-17



## **Sermon Discussion Guide (2/08)**

Begin the discussion by checking in with each person present and share prayer requests/praises with the group. Then, have one person offer a prayer for the group making sure to include any prayer requests that were mentioned earlier.

### **Scripture**

Read Psalm 51:16-17 out loud. Discuss any initial thoughts you have about these verses.

### **Observation**

What contrast is presented in the passage between sacrifices or offerings and a broken heart?

Why do you think God delights in a broken heart? What do these verses reveal to us about the heart of God?

Read 2 Corinthians 7:8-11. According to these verses, how is repentance defined? What is involved in repentance? What occurs as a result of a repentant heart?

Read Genesis 3:6-10. What decisions do Adam and Eve make, and what feelings do they experience after their sin? How does this passage contrast with 2 Corinthians 7?

## **Application**

We have a tendency to rationalize sin rather than repenting from it. How have you rationalized sin in your life? What have you excused that God is calling you to repent of? What have you justified or rebranded so that it does not seem like such a big deal?

Our repentance and return to God is possible because God meets us with love rather than shame. How does knowing the character of God as one of love and truth help you to choose repentance rather than hiding in shame or being overcome with fear?

A broken heart is an honest and humble heart. How is God inviting you to come before Him with honesty and humility?

Pastor Kenny closed the sermon by praying Psalm 51. How did God speak to you during this time of prayer? What steps will you take this week to be obedient to the ways that God has spoken to you through this Scripture and sermon?

## **Prayer**

Gracious and merciful God, we come to you with the words of David, a man after your own heart. Have mercy on us according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and sustain us with a willing spirit. For You do not desire sacrifice. The sacrifice You desire is a broken and contrite heart, and this, O God, You will not despise. We come to You trusting not in ourselves, but in Your mercy. Amen.