

Seasons of Confession and Cleansing

Psalm 51

Taking it Home:

1. Throughout the week, reflect on your life and ask God to reveal any sin that needs to be confessed, whether transgressions, sins, or iniquities. Ask the Lord daily for His cleansing.
2. Review the study notes regarding the words: broken and contrite. Today, does this reflect your heart? If not, what needs to change?

Prayer Concerns:**David's sin with Bathsheba:****1. Sin is _____**

Sin is _____

Transgressions – Willfully crossing a forbidden boundary

Sin – “Falling short” or “missing the mark”

Iniquity – Original sin or the depravity of our natures

Sin is always first against _____

2. God is _____

There is no _____ too great that God's mercy cannot _____.

3. Confession promises _____

Removes the _____ that sin _____

Restores our _____ with _____

Makes us _____

4. Cleansing is _____ but not _____

Cost to us: I'm _____ (contrite) and I _____ (broken)

Cost to God: The blood of Christ to _____

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” (51:10)

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

1. What caused you to get in the most trouble as a kid?

Digging Deeper:

Read 2 Samuel 11 and Psalm 51

1. In what ways did David sin in his affair with Bathsheba?
2. Read Leviticus 24:17 and Deuteronomy 22:22. As a man after God's own heart, David knew the law backward and forward. With this knowledge, how was it that David could approach God expecting anything different than what was written in the law?
3. David sinned against Bathsheba, Uriah, Joab, and the entire nation. What then prompted him to say his sin was against God alone? How does this impact the way you view your own sin?

4. In addition to the blessings that David found through confession (as listed in the study guide), what other blessings have you found as you've confessed your sin to God?
5. Reread verses 7-12. In what ways do cleansing, purity, washing, and strengthening happen? Who is the source of these things? What hope does this bring to you as you consider confessing sin to God?
6. As a Growth Group, take a moment of either public or private confession, bringing your sins to God and asking Him to create in you a pure heart. Finish by reading the following prayer together from the Book of Common Prayer:

*Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you
In thought, word, and deed,
By what we have done,
And by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
Have mercy on us and forgive us;
That we may delight in your will,
And walk in your ways,
To the glory of your Name. Amen*