

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

The Lord Reigns, Our God, Magnificent, Amazing Grace

WELCOME

Fast and Pray. Share your most significant experience/learning, after prayer and fasting.

WORD

PSALM 51

¹Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; According to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my transgressions. ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. ³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. ⁴Against You, You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified when You speak and blameless when You judge. ⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me. ⁶Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, And in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom. ⁷Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow ⁸Make me to hear joy and gladness, Let the bones which 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 steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. ¹²Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit. ¹³Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners will be converted to You.

DAVID'S TRUE REPENTANCE

Most of us remember David as the young boy who defeated Goliath or the king who committed adultery with Bathsheba and murdered Uriah. But we less likely remember him for his repentance over his sin which, in fact, is what led to his memorial in the Bible as the man after God's own heart.

David sinned but he returned to God with a contrite heart. His life tells us that through genuine repentance, we can also rebound from a major mistake. This is God's way of restoring us.

Little did David know the consequences of his sin. It led his family to disaster and he found himself stuck with that situation. Sin is like a sugar-coated poison that will surely destroy us sooner or later. More so, sin begets sin. Once it starts, it is hard to stop. Then, it will take us farther away from where we want to go, keep us longer than we want to stay, or cost us more than we are willing to pay.

Because of sin, we all need to repent. But it is not just merely feeling sorry (which is our auto-response when caught in sin). Repentance comes from the Greek word 'metanoia' which means a change of mind and heart. It is meant to be a lifestyle for Christians and not just a one-time event. True repentance leads to salvation and brings spiritual breakthroughs.

In **Psalm 51**, we can learn five principles of true repentance from King David.

APPROACH GOD (V. 1)

True repentance is approaching God, not running away from Him.

However, we are likely to think that when we sin, God turns His back from us because that is the way of the world where people who make mistakes get rejected. But God's forgiveness is based on grace, not on us, because we will never deserve His forgiveness. So, David sought God's grace on the basis of God's character - His lovingkindness, compassion and greatness.

God wants us to approach Him. Therefore, do not believe the lies of Satan that you are hopeless and that God will never forgive you. Turn to Jesus with true repentance and He will restore you.

ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY (V. 2-3)

True repentance is assuming responsibility for our sin and not blaming others.

David took sole responsibility for his sin without any excuses. He humbly admitted the gravity of sin, his sinful nature, his rebellion and disobedience that separated him farther from God.

There are times we do not take sin seriously because we think it is only against people. However, sin is ultimately against God. If we think it is only against the offended, then repentance, should it ever occur at all, will be too shallow. It is important to understand that sin is ultimately a violation of God's love for us.

WORD (cont'd)

ACCEPT GOD'S FORGIVENESS (V. 7)

True repentance is accepting God's forgiveness.

David understood that forgiveness comes with blood; this is a foreshadowing of the death of Jesus in the New Testament. David knew that forgiveness is all in God's power. To be clean and pure, he sought God to wash him of his sin.

ACCEPT CONSEQUENCES (V. 8–9)

True repentance is accepting the consequences of sin.

God will forgive us of our sin but we must be ready and be willing to accept the consequences. Sooner or later the consequences of sin will catch up on us, and sometimes in an unpleasant surprise.

Understandably we do not want the consequences of sin because it is painful, humbling or even

humiliating, but true repentance includes humble acceptance of the consequences. David was miserable and in pain but still he humbly came to God and accepted the consequences of his sin.

ASK GOD TO CHANGE OUR HEART (V. 10–13)

True repentance is deeply seeking God to create in us a new heart.

David understood that sin separated him from God. He longed for God's presence, for experiencing again intimacy with Him, and for the restoration of the joy of his salvation.

Repentance is the work of God's grace; we cannot do it on our own. True repentance brings breakthroughs including forgiveness, clear conscience, joy of the Lord, intimacy with God, restored relationships, and true worship.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. **After God's Own Heart.** What can we learn from David as a man after God's own heart based on Psalm 51?
2. **Broken to Breakthrough.** Have you been broken that led to a breakthrough? What did you learn from it?
3. **Repent.** Have you come to a point of true repentance? How have/will you come to God with true repentance?

WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Read Psalm 51 at least three times (3x). Meditate on the passage. As you read, ask God for a particular passage and principle that He wants you to pay attention to at this point.

Write down the passage and principles that you are learning. Prepare a pray-care-share approach based on or using this passage.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends