



FOR THE SERMON PREACHED ON: Sunday, January 23, 2022

SERIES: ABIDE: Pursuing the Presence & Power of God for my Life

TITLE: Abiding through Confession

PASSAGE: Psalm 51:1-19

1. In Ps 51:1, the psalmist appeals to God based on his lovingkindness. What other words describe God's character in verses 1, 4, and 14?
2. What conclusions has the psalmist drawn about himself in verses 2-4 that justify God's declaration that he is guilty?
3. Who has the psalmist sinned against (v4), and what does that imply about our sins against one another?
4. What are the dangers of failing to confess our sin? What hinders you from humbly approaching God in a spirit of repentance and confession?
5. In verse 7, the psalmist asks the Lord to purify him with hyssop and wash him. How is a believer purified from their sin (see 1 John 1:9)?
6. List the various requests the psalmist makes of God in verses 7-12, 14. What do all these requests have in common?
7. In what two ways will the psalmist respond to God's action (v13, 14b)?
8. What sort of sacrifice pleases the Lord (v15-19)? What does it mean to have a broken and contrite heart?

Application

- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the sins hidden in your heart. Confess them. Repent of them. Be specific.
- Boldly ask the Lord to meet your needs, starting with your greatest need for forgiveness and restoration into a right relationship with Him.
- Decide how you will respond to God's mercy, goodness, and favour toward you. Write down all the ways you desire to respond to God and keep it in a visible place to remind yourself of this declaration.

PRAYER POINTS (based on Psalm 51:1-19):

THE PRAISEWORTHY QUALITIES OF GOD:

- He is the God of abundant mercy and steadfast love (v1)
- He blots out my transgressions (v1)
- He washes me thoroughly and cleanses me from iniquity and sin (v2, 7)
- He is justified in his words and blameless in his judgement (v4)
- He delights in truth and teaches wisdom in our hearts (v6)
- He creates a clean heart and renews a right spirit within us (v10)
- He restores the joy of his salvation in our lives (v12)
- He delivers us from guilt (v14)
- He is the God of salvation (v14)
- He is worthy of our praise (v14, 15)
- He is worthy of our sacrifices and offerings (v16-19)

REVERENCE:

- Lord, we worship you because . . .
- I know you are the God of mercy and love because . . .
- Lord, I praise you for cleansing me from my sin even when . . .

RESPONSE:

- Lord, I confess that I've sinned against you by . . .
- Lord, deliver me from the guilt I carry from . . .
- Lord, I completely own my sin of ____, and I ask you to wash me clean

REQUEST:

- Lord, create in me a clean heart when it comes to . . .
- Lord, please teach me truth and wisdom in my heart regarding . . .
- Lord, uphold me with a willing spirit so that I will . . .

READINESS:

- Father, search my heart and see if there is anything I'm celebrating that I should be confessing . . .
- Lord, when the enemy tempts us to sin, please restore to us the joy of your salvation in our lives . . .
- Lord, when I'm tempted to wallow in my sin, please strengthen me to celebrate my forgiveness in Christ . . .