

**Songs of Forgiveness**  
**Forgiveness and confession (Psalm 51)**

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### **The Backstory**

#### **1 Confession - What it looks like**

- To admit our sin (v1-3)
- To see that sin is against God (v4)
- To see that sin is in our nature (v5-6)

#### **2. Confession - What to ask for**

- For mercy (v1-2)
- For pardon (v7-9)
- For renewal (v10-12)

#### **3. Confession - Its results**

- On our mouths (v13-15)
- On our religion (v16-17)
- On those around us (v18-19)

### **Conclusion**

- Better than David?
- Comfortable with sin?
- I know my sin?

References: 2 Samuel 11 & 12. Colossians 2v13-14

### **Psalm 51 (NIV)**

For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.
- <sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.
- <sup>5</sup> Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- <sup>6</sup> Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;  
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- <sup>7</sup> Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.
- <sup>10</sup> Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- <sup>11</sup> Do not cast me from your presence  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- <sup>13</sup> Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
so that sinners will turn back to you.

<sup>14</sup> Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,  
you who are God my Savior,  
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

<sup>15</sup> Open my lips, Lord,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

<sup>16</sup> You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;  
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

<sup>17</sup> My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart  
you, God, will not despise.

<sup>18</sup> May it please you to prosper Zion,  
to build up the walls of Jerusalem.

<sup>19</sup> Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous,  
in burnt offerings offered whole;  
then bulls will be offered on your altar.