

Lesson 18
Psalm 51

1. Read 2 Samuel 11-12:13 for the context behind this Psalm. What details strike you in this account?

Read Psalm 51

2. What does David ask of God in verses 1-2? On what basis (aspects of God's character) does he ask?

Re-read verses 3-6

3. a. What questions do these verses stir in you? Which phrases do you struggle with?

b. Are there phrases or concepts that you identify with? If so, why?

Re-read verses 6-19. See also Exodus 12:22 and Numbers 19:18.

4. Considering the use of hyssop in the Exodus and Numbers passages, what is David asking and proclaiming in verse 7-9?

5. From verses 10 and 12, what does David desire?

6. Overall, from verses 7-12, when true repentance takes place, what will be the result for the restored sinner?

Re-read verses 13-19

7. How will David respond to the forgiveness he receives?

8. What do you think it means in verses 16-17 that the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit?

9. What does Psalm 51 teach us about the right attitude towards our own sins?

10. How can Psalm 51 shape the way you approach confession and repentance?