



## Week 7: Repentance "A broken heart"

*Psalm 51*

### ⊕ OPEN

Today we conclude our 7 week series "**Loving God with all our heart**". So far we have explored six dimensions of this foundational commandment: 1) to have no other gods before Him 2) to make our money worship Him 3) to engage with His Word in such way that it sets our heart "on fire" 4) forgiving one another "from the heart" 5) worshipping Him corporately with all of our heart every Sunday and 6) Harnessing our imaginations to fuel our heart's passion. Today we will explore the dynamics of a truly broken and contrite heart

### 👥 SHARE & RECONNECT

- When did you first experience the emotion of guilt and what did you do with it?
- To what extent was guilt used as a motivator by authority figures in your life ( parents, teachers, pastors etc)

### 📖 READING

- Read 2 Samuel Ch 11.1-5, 27 and Ch 12. 15-20. Then read Psalm 51
  - In what way does the back story in 2 Samuel illuminate and enhance our understanding of David's prayer in Psalm 51
- Read Psalm 32
  - Note the similarities and differences between the two prayers in Ps 32 and 51. How do these two prayers illuminate each other?
- What do you think led David to such a profound response to his sin?

## REFLECT

- How significant (or not) has Lent usually been in your day to day life and why ( Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th)
- Why do most congregants rate corporate confession as one of the two least helpful elements of a worship service
- Read aloud Auschwitz survivor Yehiel Dinur's reaction when he saw Adolph Eichmaan at his trial ( its short but poignant)
  - <https://breakpoint.org/breakpoint-the-eichmann-in-all-of-us/>
  - Evaluate/react/respond to Dinurs shocking reason why he broke down sobbing—"I realized that Adolph Eichmaan lives in all of us"
- Share a time when you have confessed/repented before God with the ruthless honesty of David (Ps 51.1-9) that named the fact, depth and defilement of your "transgression/iniquity/sin", sensed the absence of joy and traced it to its possible roots in your sin
  - Why is such honest confession so rare- individually and corporately?
- Davids' prayer for renewal ( v10-12) was summed up thus: *O God, create something new in me—a single-minded, pure heart—then maintain it so I don't slip backward and, above all, change the very desires of my heart so I will love to be steadfast in my purity*
  - Again, why are such prayers for radical renewal equally rare, if not totally absent, from most Christ followers' lives

## PRAY

- Read Psalm 51 aloud twice—slowly, with pauses—preferably in different translations. Respond in confession to God as the Spirit prompts (Remember length and eloquence aren't the issue but ruthless honesty)
- Repeat the process with Daniel's prayer of **corporate** confession in Daniel 9.1-19 (he himself was not guilty of what he was confessing)—only this time confessing on behalf of Wellspring and the NA church
- Now that you have worked through two Biblical confessions, review the seven aspects of loving God with all our hearts (OPEN section above) and use what you have learnt to fuel prayer for radical renewal —again for Wellspring and the NA church