



March 6, 2022

## MAIN SCRIPTURE: Psalm 51:1-6 (NLT)

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. <sup>2</sup> Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. <sup>3</sup> For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. <sup>4</sup> Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just. <sup>5</sup> For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me. <sup>6</sup> But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there.

## WARM UP

- During Lent, College Church will be reading through the book of Mark in the New Testament while reading devotions that have been submitted by various College Church writers. How might this shared experience benefit our people? What's your hope?
- What do you know about the Gospel of Mark? When you think of this book, what comes to mind? If you have a favorite Gospel (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John), which one is it? Why?

(Below you will find the main points of this week's sermon along with discussion questions. Feel free to use, reword, or omit questions depending on the needs of your group and the time needed for prayer, care, and fellowship. Thank you for your leadership.)

## Thought #1 – Remember the Lord's unfailing love and compassion.

Verses: Psalm 51:1

- Reflect on this thought, "The Lord sees the whole you on a regular basis." As you think of this, what thoughts, feelings, fears, hope do you have? Why?

- Pastor Kevin said, "We can approach God because of what we know about Him." Have each member of your group mention something that we know about God. Perhaps try to remember what we came to learn about God during our last sermon series which reflected on the book *The Good & Beautiful God*.

## Thought # 2 – God can see all of you and is capable of handling all He sees!

Verses: Psalm 51:1b-2

- Tell your story. Tell of someone in your life who was the most skilled at loving you through the good and the bad. What was it about this person that allowed them to "handle" you so well?
- Pastor Kevin encouraged us to "let God begin to clear out the debris" of your life. So, where do you think God would begin? What aspect of your life do you think needs immediate attention? What makes you excited about trusting God to do this demolition and clean-up?

## Thought # 3 – Recognize your stuff. Own it!!

Verses: Psalm 51:3-5

- What changes in your life have been the easiest/hardest to resist?
- Pastor Kevin said, "I am inviting you to read scripture with me, knowing the Holy Spirit is going to meet you there. He is going to show you things that you might not like to see. The invitation is not to resist, but to say 'I desire to be different.'"
  - Ok, it's time to be refreshingly honest. On a scale of 1-10, how much do you desire to be different? Explain.

## Thought # 4 – God desires honest!

Verses: Psalm 51:6

- Just because God sees and knows every part of us, doesn't mean that we are always honest *before God about* ourselves. Is there a part of your life that you used to try to hide from God, but have now allowed yourself to be honest before Him? Tell your story. How has your new

