



WEDNESDAY EVENING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: David: Prayer of Repentance

Passage: Psalm 51

Speaker: Bro. Keith Preston

Introduction: Psalm 51 is one of the clearest pictures of genuine repentance in all of Scripture. After David's sin with Bathsheba and his attempts to hide it, God confronted him through the prophet Nathan. Rather than making excuses or blaming others, David took ownership of his sin, saying, "my transgressions" and "my sin." A prayer of repentance begins with honest confession. Tonight, we will look at three steps to a prayer of repentance.

I. Get Real About Your Sin (Verses 3-6)

You can hide your sin for a while; you can hide it from people, but God already knows.

Hidden sin never brings peace. It only brings misery. The longer we hide sin, the heavier it becomes.

"But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord: and be sure your sin will find you out." (Numbers 32:23)

You can't conquer the sin you're still trying to justify.

God already knows. Confession is agreeing with God about what He already sees.

The road to restoration begins with one honest confession: "Lord... I have sinned."

II. Get Humble Before God (Verses 7-12)



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Sometimes we want forgiveness, but we don't want humility. We want the consequences to go away, but we don't want our hearts to change.

David isn't trying to clean himself up. He's asking God to do what he cannot do for himself. That's humility.

Most of us spend far more time asking God to change our circumstances than we do asking Him to change our hearts!

What made David a man after God's own heart wasn't that he never failed. It was how he responded when he did fail.

III. Get Right With God (Verses 13-19)

Real repentance always leads to a changed life.

One of the greatest misconceptions about repentance is that it's simply saying, "I'm sorry." Biblical repentance is much more than that.

Repentance changes your direction, your desires, and the way you live.

One of the greatest evidences of true repentance is a desire to help others walk with God.

Nothing will rob your joy quicker than unconfessed sin, and nothing will restore your joy quicker than genuine repentance.

Conclusion: Psalm 51 is David's prayer of repentance. He isn't making excuses, defending himself, or blaming others. He is crying out to God for mercy, forgiveness, and restoration.

"And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die." (2 Samuel 12:13)

David's restoration began when he stopped making excuses and admitted his sin. The wonderful truth of Psalm 51 is that God's mercy is greater than our sin, and the same God who restored David still restores believers today through genuine repentance.