

LIVING LIFE WITH A CLEAN HEART
Sermon Series: “Living The Psalms Together”
(A year-long study through the Psalms)

Psalm 51
March 5th, 2023
Pastor Frank Mack
Family Life Christian Church

4 Steps to living life out of a CLEAN HEART

1. RECOGNIZE THE REALITY OF YOUR SITUATION

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.” Psalm 51:1 (ESV)

You must recognize...

- **It’s NOT based on you. Reconciliation is based on a God of:**
 - Steadfast Love (Hesed)
 - Abundant mercy
 - Blameless judgement
- **The spiritual condition you’re in.**
 - You knowingly rebelled against God’s commands (vs. 1, “transgressions”)
 - It was a sin-- “...cleanse me from my sin!” **Psalm 51:2b (ESV)**
 - It is iniquity-- “Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity...” **Psalm 51:2a (ESV)**
 - It’s considered evil-- “Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight...” **Psalm 51:4 (ESV)**
 - It’s dirty—“Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.” **Psalm 51:7 (ESV)**
 - You MUST agree with God about your sin—“For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.” **Psalm 51:3 (ESV)**
- **The effects of your sin.**
 - Sin corrupts your heart—“Purge me...wash me..” (vs. 7)
 - Sin causes spiritual deafness—“Let me hear joy and gladness...” **Psalm 51:8a (ESV)**
 - Sin brings disgrace—“Hide Your face from my sins...” **Psalm 51:9a (ESV)**
 - Sin causes damage—“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” **Psalm 51:10 (ESV)**
 - Sin separates you from the presence of God—“Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.” **Psalm 51:11 (ESV)**
 - Sin brings depression and defeat—“Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.” **Psalm 51:12 (ESV)**
- **How sin occurs and who’s it against.**
 - From your sin nature—“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.” **Psalm 51:5 (ESV)**

- From your choice to ultimately sin against God—“*Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.*” **Psalm 51:4 (ESV)**

1. REPENT AND BEGIN RETURNING BACK TO GOD.

You must...

- **Agree with God about your sin and be truthful.**

"For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me." **Psalm 51:3 (ESV)**

"Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart." **Psalm 51:6 (ESV)**

- **Ask God to clean your heart**

"Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." **Psalm 51:7 (ESV)**

3. RETURNING BACK TO GOD WILL BRING SUPERNATURAL RESTORATION

God will restore you by giving you...

- **Ears to hear Him**

"Let me hear..." **Psalm 51:8a (ESV)**

- **Joy and gladness**

"Let me hear joy and gladness..." **Psalm 51:8a (ESV)**

"Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit." **Psalm 51:12 (ESV)**

- **A whole, willing and steadfast spirit** (replaces your broken spirit)

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." **Psalm 51:17 (ESV)**

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." **Psalm 51:10 (ESV)**

"Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit." **Psalm 51:12 (ESV)**

- **Peace in knowing your sins are forgiven and forgotten**

“Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.” Psalms 51:9 (ESV)

“As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.” Psalm 103:12 (ESV)

4. THE RESULTS OF YOUR RESTORATION

When your relationship with the Lord is restored, *“then...”*(vs.13)

- **Your walk with Christ will be seen**

“Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.” Psalm 51:13 (ESV)

- **Your words will be change**

“Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.” Psalm 51:14-15 (ESV)

- **Your worship to the Lord will be REAL**

“For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering... ¹⁸ Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem; ¹⁹ then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.” Psalm 51:16, 18-19 (ESV)

Will you today recognize and repent of your sins and let God restore your heart back to Him so He can use you to reach the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ?