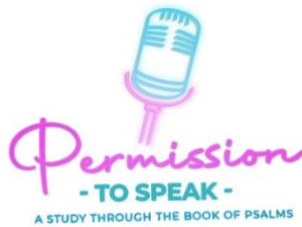


June 19 & 20, 2021



2 Samuel 12 *Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."*

David was a man after God's own heart not because he was perfect, but because he confessed his sin when he wasn't.

Psalm 51:1-2 *Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*

Confession begins by appealing to the mercy of God.

Psalm 51: 3-4 *For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.*

Confession means that you take full responsibility that you were the one that had done wrong.

Psalm 51: 5-6 *Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.*

Confession means you remember the origin of sin is hereditary.

Psalm 51: 7-9 *Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.*

Confession means you ask for God to cleanse your heart.

Psalm 51:10-15 *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.*

Confession communicates your desire to have your relationship with God be restored.

Psalm 51:16-17 *You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.*

Confession only works when your heart is broken.

God delights in our words of repentance because our relationship with God begins and grows with confession of sin.