

Wednesday

Please read Psalm 51:7–12 at least three times. What words, phrases, or images stand out to you and why? How is a willing spirit essential?
As you pray today, personalize these verses and pray them back to God.

Thursday

Please read Psalm 51:13–15. Recall a time when reaching out to others helped you in a struggle you were facing. Think about David’s choices in these verses. Specifically how can you:

- ➔ Show others God’s ways?
- ➔ Praise God with your words?
- ➔ Tell others of God’s help and goodness?

How can a focus on praising God help you in the current struggles you are facing?

Thank God today that the struggles you’ve experienced can be used to help others. Pray that you’ll be willing to help others and honest enough to admit your struggles. Spend an extended time in prayer praising God for his goodness and love for you.

Friday

Please read Psalm 51:16–17. Focus on verse 17: “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.” What would the sacrifice of a broken heart and spirit look like in your struggle? What is holding you back from doing that?

Thank God today there is help for your struggles and there is a way back when you fall. Pray that your heart will be soft and that you will be willing to offer the sacrifice of a broken spirit and contrite heart.

Saturday

Please read the book of Jonah (don’t panic, it’s only 4 chapters long!) to prepare for tomorrow’s message.

Pray that both worship services will bring glory to God. Pray that we will grow closer together as a church body and at the same time be more effective at reaching our community with the good news of God’s grace and love.



The Storms of Life

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, September 27, 2015

What to Do When You Get it Wrong

For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

For the context read 2 Samuel 11 & 12

How to get back on track...

1. Look honestly at _____

I’m _____

“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.”

Psalm 51:1–2

I’m _____,

it’s not just a mistake

“Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.” Psalm 51:4

I’m _____ **to sin even more!**

“Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.” Psalm 51:5 (Also see Psalm 32)



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2. Look hopefully to _____

For _____

“Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.” Psalm 51:7

For _____

“Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.” Psalm 51:8

For _____

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” Psalm 51:10

“...grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.” Psalm 51:12b

3. Look helpfully to _____

“Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you. Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.” Psalm 51:13–15

“You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.” Psalm 51:16-17

Bottom line: God wants my _____,

not mere _____

Daily Meditations

Spend some time each day reading God’s Word and meditating on Sunday’s topic...

This Week’s Memory Verse:

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.”

Psalm 51:1

Monday

Please read Psalm 51. What do you learn about getting back on track spiritually in this psalm? In what way are you struggling to get back on track right now?

Thank God today for this passage that deals with the reality of getting back on track spiritually. Talk to him about the area(s) of your life where you’re struggling with turning back to God. Ask God to help you grow in your confidence in his forgiveness and his strength to help you turn back to him.

Tuesday

Please read Psalm 51:1–5. It may be easier to be self-condemning than being honest. But self-condemnation isn’t productive—honesty is! Why does getting back on track have to start with being honest with myself? Think about an area of your life where you may currently struggle to turn toward God. Answer the following questions honestly—not curtly, not dramatically—but honestly:

What responsibility for your actions do you need to take in this struggle?

In what way is this struggle sin?

In what way have you opened the door to “entertaining” this struggle even more?

As you go to prayer today, talk to God honestly about your struggles and your sins. First, confess them to God—out loud! Secondly, thank God that he hears you and that he loves you completely no matter what you just confessed to him. Ask him to give you the strength to turn away from your struggle in some way today.