



# Sermon Growth Guide

**May 16, 2021**

**What David Knew - Forgiver**

**Psalm 51**

**Key Verse:** Psalm 51:14 "Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness."

**Big Idea:** God receives my contrite heart and forgives me by dying in my place on the cross.

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## Foundations

God does not forgive cheaply. Kingdom forgiveness is the real deal that holds together the full range of God's attributes. God's love, justice, truth and beauty are not tainted by His forgiveness.

How is this possible? God receives my contrite heart and forgives me by dying in my place on the cross. God does not pretend like our sins are little, inconsequential actions that don't hurt others or profane God's holiness. Neither does God condemn all humanity to the grave, justice without the cross.

We learn in 2 Corinthians 5:21 that "God made him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." We are forgiven on grounds of God's own sacrifice. Justice is satisfied and we are redeemed, behold the atonement of the cross! Love, justice, truth, beauty and forgiveness dance together in the Kingdom of Light.

Rejoice together that God is a forgiving God! Pray that you each receive God's forgiveness in gratitude. Pray that God protects and uses your time together for His good purposes.

## Understanding God's Word

David has violated Bathsheba, killed Uriah and broken the trust of his nation. Why does David rightly say in verse four that "against you (God), you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight"?

What is David's request in verses 10-12?

We learn in verse 17 that true repentance includes "a broken and contrite heart." What does a broken and contrite heart look like?

## Applying God's Word

God receives my contrite heart and forgives me by dying in my place on the cross.

Knowing that God is Forgiver, in what ways can you cultivate a deeper ability to walk in "a broken and contrite heart" before the Lord when you sin?

## Witnessing God's Word

David declares in Psalm 51:14 that as a result of the Lord forgiving him, his tongue will sing of the righteousness of the Lord. Following David's lead, how can you sing of the righteousness of the Lord to those around you, especially the yet-believing community (see also verse 13)?

**No matter where you are, there is a Psalm to reach you and lead you back home to God.**