

The Joy of Repentance

Main Passage: Psalm 32; 51

Theological Theme

God's good character and powerful work in our lives deserves authentic worship.

Introduction

- ① What comes to mind when you think about worship?
- ② What examples of worship do we see in the pages of Scripture?

1. The Joy of Forgiveness (Psalm 32:1-11)

This Psalm is attributed to David, the famous king of Israel. Scripture describes David as a man after God's own heart, and he penned many psalms in worship to the Lord.

- ① What themes stand out to you in this Psalm?
- ② What of God was David responding to in this passage?

2. A Guilty Plea (Psalm 51:1-5)

This psalm is directly attributed to the time in David's life when he sinned against Bathsheba and Uriah. Nathan's confrontation of David happened in 2 Samuel 12. This psalm is one of the ways David responded (David often turned to the written word in his worship).

This psalm offers a prayer of restoration. David was brought low by his sin, and we are reminded of Psalm 32:3-4. In this psalm, David cried out to the Lord from the darkness of the valley (maybe the darkest valley of David's life).

- ① This psalm was written after David with confronted by Nathan for his sin with Bathsheba. What indicates David's repentance in these verses?

- ❓ How did David respond to God in worship in the midst of his own conviction?
- ❓ What might be surprising about David's confession in verse 4? What does this indicate about all of our sin?

3. A Prayer for Restoration (Psalm 51:6-19)

God desires a better life for us. A life of integrity. A life of faithfulness. God teaches us true wisdom. Here, David penned one of the most well-known verses in Scripture:

*God, create a clean heart for me
and renew a steadfast spirit within me. —Psalm 51:10*

- ❓ Why do all people need to be washed clean of our sin?
- ❓ How has God provided the ultimate answer to this need?
- ❓ Why should God's forgiveness made available through Jesus lead us to continual worship of Him?

Conclusion

David worshiped in the midst of his own failure. God is always worth our worship as we see Him rightly and respond in reverence.

- ❓ How can we worship in every season and moment of life?
- ❓ Think about a time that God forgave you of a transgression. How did you respond? How would you like to respond in the future in worship?
- ❓ What do these psalms teach us about God's character? How can we share this truth with others?