FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

PSALMS: The Prayers & Praises of God's People - Psalm 51:1-19 - A Truly Penitent Prayer - 06.23.2024

- 1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart? If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
- 2. Have you ever had a season of life where you've done a certain task for so long that you go about it somewhat mindlessly?
 (I shared about getting so familiar with music during a tour that by the end you can play the setlist without any real heart or thought).
 Consider this mentality as it pertains to your relationship with the Lord vs empty religiosity has this ever happened to you?
 If so, how do you believe that sort of "mindlessness" of religious routine came about in your life?
 Was it related to unconfessed sin in your life, apathy over the practice of your faith, or something else?
 How did the Lord lead you to get through that season back to vibrancy in your relationship with Him?
 OR if you're currently in that season, what steps do you feel you need to take to get back on track with the Lord?
- 3. How does the preface of Psalm 51 provide historical backdrop to help us understand the place from which King David is writing?

 **The events outlined in this preface can be found in 2 Samuel 11-12; read those chapters to better understand what's taken place.

 As you consider the sins that David has committed against God, on what grounds does he appeal for forgiveness? (Verse 1)

 How does his appeal reveal an ownership of all of his sins and an understanding of the character of the one true God?

 In light of David's response to Nathan's confrontation of sin, how should you respond when confronted with sin in your life?

 Are there any particular sins or sin-patterns in your life for which the Holy Spirit is convicting you right now?

 If so, how can Psalm 51 help you to know how you ought to come before the Lord?
- 4. Have you ever feared the removal of the Holy Spirit from your life based on King David's prayer in this Psalm? How do John 15 & 16, Rom. 8, & 2 Cor. 1:22-23 help us to understand Holy Spirit's work on behalf of those who are in Christ? How does this differ from the role of the Holy Spirit pre-incarnation (as in the time of King David)? How is it better for us to be alive in Christ now (this side of Jesus's resurrection/ascension) than it was for King David?
- 5. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how? Conviction over sin is evidence of God's mercy!

When confronted/convicted of sin, confess it!

God is perfectly righteous & just in all He does!

We're responsible for our sin & the awful results!

All people are sinful from before we were born!

We must be reborn in the Spirit through Jesus!

God isn't impressed by our empty outward acts!

Worship Him from humble & grateful hearts!