

1. **Pray:** ask God to open your mind, soul and spirit to His teaching through His Word
2. **Think:** the questions are designed to expand your knowledge of God and His Word
3. **Begin:** using only your Bible, answer the questions without other outside sources

Lesson Thirty: Psalm 51

May 10, 2006

Read Psalm 51 all the way through, then answer the questions.

1. a) What event is this psalm related to in David's life? (see 2 Samuel 11)
 - b) How does David describe God throughout this psalm?
(Who is He, what does He want and what can He do?)

2. a) What is David asking God to do in verses 1 and 2?
 - b) According to what things will God do it?

3. Define:
 - sin
 - iniquity
 - transgression

How are they similar and/or different?

4. In verse 4, why do you think David is saying that it is against God and God only that he sinned?

When you wrong someone else do you think of it as sinning against God? Why or why not?

5. David says he was sinful at conception and birth. Do you think this is true of everyone? Why or why not? Look up these verses for help: Romans 3:9–12 and Isaiah 53:5–6.

6. Verse 6 says God desires "truth in the inner parts."
 - a) What do you think this means?

 - b) Where do you compromise your truthfulness?

7. a) David asks God to create a pure heart and renew a steadfast spirit in him in verse 10a. What is your definition of a pure heart?

b) What do the following verses say about God's power to renew our spirits and hearts:
2 Corinthians 5:17

Ezekiel 36:25–26

Titus 3:4–6

8. In verse 11 David is asking God not to take the Holy Spirit from him. Do you think a true believer can lose the Holy Spirit? Look up these verses and write what you think:
John 6:39–40; John 10:27–28; John 14:16–17; 2 Corinthians 1:21–22; Ephesians 1:13–14; Philippians 1:6

9. What are the things David asks God to do in verses 10–12?

10. What does David say he will do for God in verses 13–15?

11. Verse 17 says that the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit and contrite heart.

a) What do you think this means?

b) Why is this a sacrifice to God?

c) Share a time when you have had a broken spirit.

12. Read Psalm 32:1–5. What does it say about confession and forgiveness?

What area in your life needs this deep confession before God? Will you, like David, seek our Great God of Mercy for his full forgiveness and cleansing?

Use these psalms as a guide in how to pray...