



Sexual Purity Course Lesson 14

Scripture: Read Psalm 51.

Study:

Note the heading of this psalm. It identifies the historical occasion for the writing of the psalm. The last study looked at the *sin* of David with Bathsheba. This study looks at the *repentance* of David after he was confronted by the prophet Nathan. Remember the historical context as you study this psalm.

1. What words did David use to describe his sins? What do these words mean?
2. Explain verse 4 in light of the historical context, specifically the point that David sinned against many individual people.
3. What important point is David making in verse 5?
4. What are the images of forgiveness in this psalm?
5. What is David asking God to do within him in verse 10?
6. What is a “broken spirit” (verse 17)?

Application:

1. David took time to express the sinfulness of his sin. He used multiple words to describe it. He saw it as directed against God. He saw it as coming from his own sinful nature. What does this powerful example teach us about the proper way to confess our sins?
2. Just as David dwelt on the sinfulness of his sin he also dwelt on the abundance of God’s forgiveness? How does God’s willingness to forgive, cleanse, and renew impact you?
3. What does it take to get to the point where you have a broken spirit? What disciplines or practices would help you to have a broken and contrite heart?
4. After David repented, he told God how he would serve Him (verses 13-15). David knew that there was more to repentance than turning away from sin. There must also be a turning to righteousness. This whole series is designed to help turn you away from sexual immorality. What will you turn to? How do you plan to serve God and live in righteousness?