

## PSALM 51

### After You Have Crashed & Burned

#### **BEHIND THE MUSIC:**

2 Samuel 11 & 12

David's Failure:

#### **GETTING BACK ON TRACK:**

Psalms 51

- ❶ It all starts with the power and purpose of the Cross.

Psalms 51:1-2, Matthew 26:28, Romans 5:8-10, Hebrews 9:13-14, Colossians 1:19-22, Isaiah 55:7, 1 Peter 1:18, 2:24, 3:18

- ❷ Past sins are more about God than others.

Psalms 51:3-9, Luke 15:21, Romans 3:26, 6:23, Isaiah 59:2

- ❸ Past sins have physical consequences.

Psalms 51:3-8, 32:1-5, 38:4-11, 2 Samuel 12:9-14, Hebrews 10:26-31

Some things are fixed immediately.

Some things are fixed later.

Some things are never fixed.

- ❹ Healing begins with our brokenness and remorse.

Psalms 51:16-17, Joel 2:12-13, 2 Corinthians 7:8-11, James 4:7-10

#### **BEYOND FORGIVENESS:**

Psalms 51:2, 10, 12, Psalm 32:5, 1 John 1:9, Ephesians 3:16-19

The cross also brings:

Freedom from our sins.

Usefulness after our sins.

## Growth Group Homework

For the week of May 27, 2007

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This is our final week of the Spring Quarter. Along with an abbreviated study, you will take some time to reflect on your group experience and then have communion together. Growth Groups will take a summer break and resume the week of September 16. *Have a great summer!*

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IF YOU'D LIKE TO CONTINUE IN A SUMMER STUDY, NCU HAS SEVERAL CLASSES THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER. YOU CAN FIND A LIST OF THE CLASSES OFFERED ON THE BACK PAGE OF THIS HOMEWORK. WATCH THE BULLETIN AND HOT SHEET FOR MORE DETAILS.

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### MY STORY

Summer is just around the corner! Do you have any special plans, activities or prayer requests for the summer months?

This week we looked at what to do after you have realized you've "crashed and burned." Was there a particular point, comment, or verse that caught your attention, challenged you or confused you?

### DIGGING DEEPER

The forgiveness and grace we receive from God for our sins is an amazing thing. Yet, as we heard in this week's teaching, it can be a battle to be freed from the burden of past sins, sins we find ourselves repeating, or knowing if we're genuinely owning up to our stuff. What do we learn from God's response to the confession of those in the passages below and what it takes to really own up to our stuff?

#### **Isaiah 1:11-17**

"The multitude of your sacrifices--  
what are they to me?" says the Lord.  
"I have more than enough of burnt offerings,  
of rams and the fat of fattened animals;  
I have no pleasure  
in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.  
[12] When you come to appear before me,  
who has asked this of you,  
this trampling of my courts?  
[13] Stop bringing meaningless offerings!

Your incense is detestable to me.  
New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations--  
I cannot bear your evil assemblies.  
[14] Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts  
my soul hates.  
They have become a burden to me;  
I am weary of bearing them.  
[15] When you spread out your hands in prayer,  
I will hide my eyes from you;  
even if you offer many prayers,  
I will not listen.  
Your hands are full of blood;  
[16] wash and make yourselves clean.  
Take your evil deeds  
out of my sight!  
Stop doing wrong,  
[17] learn to do right!  
Seek justice,  
encourage the oppressed.  
Defend the cause of the fatherless,  
plead the case of the widow. [NIV]

**Amos 6:6-8**

You drink wine by the bowlful  
and use the finest lotions,  
but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.  
[7] Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile;  
your feasting and lounging will end.  
[8] The Sovereign Lord has sworn by himself--the Lord God Almighty declares:  
"I abhor the pride of Jacob  
and detest his fortresses;  
I will deliver up the city  
and everything in it." [NIV]

**Matthew 18:21-22**

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"  
[22] Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. [NIV]

Looking back at these verses how would you specifically describe a person "doing religion to get out of a jam" compared to a person who's honestly seeking forgiveness?

How could acting on what these verses call us to do free us up from the battle of ongoing sin or the burden of past sin?

## **REMEMBERING**

An essential piece of experiencing the grace of God's forgiveness in the midst of life's "crash and burn" experiences is rubbing shoulders and living life with others. Looking back at the past year, how has your Growth Group experience either encouraged, challenged or helped you stay focused on God's grace and/or live for Him?

Jesus knows that life's difficulties, distractions and mistakes can divert us from remembering and experiencing the love and forgiveness He offers us through His life, death and resurrection. This is why Jesus told the disciples at the last supper to repeatedly come together and take communion. This week your Growth Group will conclude by doing the same as the disciples and take communion together. To prepare for this, read the following verses reflecting on Jesus' investment and work in your life as you follow Him.

### **Matthew 20:28**

just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." [NIV]

### **Philippians 2:6-11**

Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,  
[7] but made himself nothing,  
taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
[8] And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to death--  
even death on a cross!  
[9] Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
[10] that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
[11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father. [NIV]

### **1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, [24] and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." [25] In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." [26] For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. [NIV]