

It has been almost 40 years but when I close my eyes I can still picture it like it was yesterday. Millie Poole was a dear sweet lady in the church I served in Germantown MD. Millie and Papi; Butlers Orchard; Visit them! I was going UP the stairs and she was coming down...met on the landing, people everywhere, "Give me a hug!" Sometimes our sin is so awful we have trouble getting past it. I STILL regret those words! Asked Forgiveness

That is where David is in Psalm 51 He has SINNED...and He knows it...and now He has consequences

- David's sin: 2 Sam 11;1-17 Bathsheba, Uriah, Lies, Deceit, Murder and Adultery: Like a Soap Opera!
- David's Guilt and Forgiveness: Psalm 51 Look with me as we learn how to deal with OUR SIN!

Sometimes we feel so awful about what we have done that we just want to stop claiming to be a follower of Jesus. Our sin is so big, so impactful on us and others...we just want to walk away! Tap Out: I'm Done!

Tapped Out 5: What Do You Do When You Have Sinned

1. PARDON: Seek God's Forgiveness And Mercy.

Vs 1-6

That sounds so simple and so intuitive that you would think it goes without saying. But that isn't the case. Unfortunately we are just like every other human that has ever lived, and given the opportunity we will avoid it. Instead of confessing and seeking forgiveness...Instead of throwing ourselves on God's mercy. We don't do it!

We follow in the footsteps of Adam and Eve: Here is something to understand about biblical interpretation.

The 1st time you see something in the bible you should pay REALLY close attention. Gives information:

- Gen 3: 1st sin: Their Pattern:
Hide: Afraid Of God: Blame Shift: Excuse
We often fall into that same pattern.

David chose a TOTALLY different path: Instead of looking for an excuse he clearly put his sin out there:

- Threw Himself on God's mercy: Lit = *Undeserved favor!* (similar to NT word for grace of God!)
- Confessed his sin:
1. Transgressions Lit = *Rebellion; Transgression; Crossing over the lines*
2. Iniquity: Lit = *Moral fault or failure; Perversity*
3. Sin: Lit = *Evil offence;*
- Asked for Forgiveness;
1. Blot Out: Lit = *to smooth over (Wax or clay tablet wiped clean, rewrite!)*
2. Wax: Lit = *A word for the laundry person bleached out stains! White!*
3. Cleanse: Lit = *To purify; to make clean; not contaminated (by sin)*
- Plead for restored Purity:
1. Cleanse: Lit = *To wash with Hyssop: CEREMONIALLY clean after defiled*
2. Wash White: Lit = *To be MORALLY cleansed and purified*

David Contrasts the whiteness of cleansing with the blood stains from murder: Vs 14 BLOODSHED
Is 1:18 "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

Rather than trying to cover up his sin, hide his sin, or excuse his sin David put words to it...and CONFESSED! David is doing exactly what John tells us to do with our sin

In 1 Jn 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

2 RESTORATION: Prayer For God To Restore The Consequences Of His Sin.

Vs 7-14

David realized that even though he could be forgiven, there are sometimes consequences to our sin that need to be dealt with as well. That is what the whole next section of this Psalm is about. David covers a number of topics

6 Requests For Restoration From His Sin

1. Vs 8: Let me hear joy and gladness: God, I NEED to hear your voice again! I need to get beyond the grief and sadness of my sin so I can enjoy your presence again. My sin separated me from fellowship: NOT CONNECTED
Illus: Sin breaks FELLOWSHIP with God, NOT RELATIONSHIP David isn't praying SAVE ME, but RECONNECT my heart with your heart! Let me hear your voice and restore our broken fellowship! Want to walk closely again

2. Vs 10: Create in me a Pure Heart: My heart became sinful, evil, full of darkness: CREATE (Genesis word!)

God my choices led me to a place where my heart was hard, evil, separated fm yours. I need a new heart!

Ez 36:26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Illus: Sin HARDENS our heart. The more we sin, the longer we take to confess, harder it gets! SPONGE!

3. Vs 10: Renew a Steadfast Spirit: God, I need a total makeover. Soul and Spirit. Not only do I need to be forgiven and restored, I need to be STRENGTHENED. That's what steadfast means. David is wise enough to pray and ask God to give him the strength to resist temptation. God, DON'T LET ME WALK THAT PATH AGAIN! David is praying the same prayer you and I pray sometimes...God please don't ever let me go there again
The word CONFESS: Lit = *A change of MIND, HEART AND DIRECTION:* Military Order: To rear march!
David is saying...I want to walk in the entirely different direction that the one I walked before. Help me do that

4. Vs 11: Don't Remove Your Spirit: This is an OT prayer. You need to understand difference between OT/NT

- OT: Work of the Holy Spirit: He would come UPON someone (King) to empower for ministry. When that ministry was done, or if the individual broke fellowship with God through sin, HS would leave! Come/GO
- NT: Work of the Holy Spirit: Holy Spirit comes to live WITHIN us and NEVER leaves. That said, if we live in sin then we break fellowship with God. Our RELATIONSHIP is still there...our FELLOWSHIP is broken. We don't have the CLOSENESS and POWER of the Holy Spirit at work in our life!
We have broken the connection between our heart and His!

David was praying: God...please don't take your Spirit, don't remove the anointing I have as King. Please allow your Spirit to stay with me...and upon me. God I have forsaken my sin, I have confessed and repented. Please rest upon me and empower me for ministry.

Our prayer is different...God remove the barrier I have built. You are STILL in me...but I am not in touch with you, I am living in my own strength, not able to access yours because sin blocks your work in my life! RECONNECT

5. Vs 12: Grant a willing Spirit: God, help me be willing to HEAR and RESPOND to the prompting of your spirit in my heart! WILLING: Lit = *to respond positively to someone, or to volunteer for something! To prop up!*

God, when your spirit gently prompts me to avoid, to leave, to restrain myself from sin: Help me LISTEN! DO IT! Sustain Me with your spirit. God, please HELP ME avoid sin...Because I can't do it on my own! Make my spirit willing to listen and respond to the still small voice inside that says.... DON'T DO IT!"

ILLUS: Know what it's like right? You see the temptation, and you HEAR the Spirit within: You have to DECIDE

6. Vs 14: Deliver me from guilt: This is one of the hardest parts of our sin. Coming to the place where you are able to forgive yourself. David is saying, "God, I haven't been able to do that." Can you help me overcome the guilt that I am carrying as a result of my sin?" Deliver Lit = *to rescue or snatch away quickly.* God, will you reach into my heart and remove that sense of Guilt. I have done my part. I have confessed...I have repented, I have asked for your strength to not repeat my mistake. But EVERY time I think of the magnitude of my sin the GUILT overwhelms me. God, can you do for me what I cannot do for myself! DELIVER ME FROM GUILT

Illus: Hear from people: Others have forgiven me, God forgiven me...I just can't seem to forgive myself.

David is praying: God can YOU deliver me from this guilt...because I cannot deliver myself!

3. PRAISE: You Promise To Praise God When He Delivers You. Vs 13-19

As David begins to work his way through this Psalm he begins to anticipate the mercy and forgiveness of God. He isn't taking it for granted, but rather is trusting in the character and goodness of God. As David begins to move forward he looks toward the future and talks about what he will do with God's grace. How he will accept that grace and invest it in others. David begins to look beyond himself to the impact on others.

- TEACH: I will teach other sinners what I have learned! God, when you deliver me...I am going to take what I have learned from this awful experience and help others learn of your grace!
- DECLARE: I am going to tell EVERYONE I know what you have done for me God, and what I know you can do for them as well. Everywhere I go I will sing your praises...LITERALLY!
- HONOR you with true repentance, not religious ritual. David speaks to a temptation we all have from time to time, which is to simply go through the motions when our heart is far from God. He says, Lord, I know what is TRULY important to you...A genuine repentant heart. So that is what I am bringing. I'm not going to go through the motions of sacrifice while my heart is removed from yours.
Repentance...authentic Repentance is what I am bringing you...not some meaningless ritual
- PRAY that my sin doesn't negatively impact others. David knew his own consequences. BUT He also understood that because he was King...His judgment impacted the entire kingdom...Prayed not We still struggle with that reality today. A pastor falls, A business leader neglects his job, A mother or a father choose sin rather than the wellbeing of their family. Everyone under them suffers. David in verses 18-19 prays...God...will you prosper Jerusalem...IN SPITE OF ME AND MY SIN!
Illus: I was counseling a ministry leader once because of bad decisions: and I said to them... WAKE!
It's NOT just about you...Your decision as a ministry leader impacts every person in your ministry!

CONCL If you are here today and there is unconfessed sin in your life that God is calling you to deal with, now is the time to do that. 1 Jn 1:9: If we confess: Listen: There is not a single person here today that hasn't walked the path that David walked...and YOU are walking today! Sometimes hold back: Others will think: Who Cares! If you get your sin forgiven and your relationship with God restored...DO IT...COME AND PRAY!

Maybe you are here and you have NEVER come to God and asked Him to forgive you and make you His child. You don't have a relationship with Him because your sin remains in place...and you don't know Him. You Can All it takes is a simple prayer: I am a sinner: I believe Jesus died for me: I confess my sin, accept Savior/Lord I'm asking you to give me a NEW heart...a NEW Spirit, A NEW Life: 2 Cor 5:17 NEW CREATION

