

## Create in Us Pure Hearts, Oh God

Scripture: Psalm 51:1-12

Date: March 20, 2021

Message: *Wash away all my iniquities and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, only you, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.*

*Psalm 51:2-5*

As we grow closer to Holy Week during this Lenten Season I am reflecting on God's love and forgiveness. It is hard to comprehend that a newborn baby is born into sin, in fact, sinful from the time the mother conceived. Sadly, we are born into a world of sin and must recognize in ourselves the sinful natures we each exhibit.

In Psalm 51, David recognizing his own sin, comes before God to confess and ask forgiveness. I image how David must have felt - regretful, embarrassed, ashamed, afraid of losing God's favor. Like David, we must confess our sins and live to improve daily in the Lord's favor. It can be difficult to have those interpersonal conversations with yourself about your own faults, but they are defining moments in a relationship with God. We must be truthful with ourselves in order to grow as an individual and as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Within these scriptures, David, recognizes his sinful nature and repents to God. He then requested God's forgiveness and the presence of the Holy Spirit. That is the glorious part of the 'birthed in sin' story, our God is offering unfailing love, compassion, and cleansing from our sins. Halleluiah! He sent a savior, His Son Jesus, who was willing to die on a cross for our transgressions, lawlessness, untruthfulness, and a multitude of other sins.

The Heavenly Father battles with forces of evil every minute of every day for our souls. To the Father, we are important collectively and we are important as individuals. God is remaining faithful and continues to drive home the concept that no matter what you do, or how bad you sin, nothing will separate Him from you. Even knowing the outcome, He chose to come to earth as a human being to save us!

You are a child of God and will carry that title with you forever. God is willing to wash away every sin and offers you forgiveness and love in return.

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, we ask as David asked, create in us pure hearts, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit in us. Do not cast us from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and grant us a willing spirit, to sustain us. Amen. (Psalm 1: 10-12)*

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