

# *the* TAKE HOME

## **Today's Scripture Passage: Psalm 51**

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. 4 Against you, you only, 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. 5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. 6 Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. 7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. 9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you. 14 Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. 18 In your good pleasure make Zion prosper; build up the walls of Jerusalem. 19 Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

## **Questions for Reflection & Discussion**

1. What is typically your first response when someone shares a jagged truth to you about you?
2. "Being real with God and ourselves means a total honesty in evaluating all we do." How does that statement speak to you today?
3. What does it mean to you to "throw yourself on God's mercy?"
4. When you are confronted with your sin, how might it help you to remember that the Holy Spirit has promised not to leave you?
5. How have your past sins been used by God to grow you so that you can help others turn back to Him?

## **For Further Reading:**

- Psalms of Confession: Psalm 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143
- Proverbs 9:8, 15:23, 17:10, 27:6

## **Prayer Prompts:**

- "Help me cultivate relationships where jagged truth is welcomed."
- "Help me listen to those who bring the jagged truth to me."
- "Give me eyes to see my sin."
- "I confess to you..."
- "I receive Your cleansing in Jesus' name; use me to help others."