



## **Teach Us to Pray – David’s Prayer**

### **July 6 | Weekly Devotionals**

#### **Introduction**

When the disciples asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray,” they were seeking to emulate the words of our greatest Teacher and find a deeper connection with God the Father. Today, we’re asking the same. In this six-week series, we’ll echo that ancient request and allow God Himself to be our guide. Teach Us to Pray explores six powerful prayers from the Old Testament - prayers from real people in real need. Their cries for help varied from forgiveness to healing to blessing to deliverance, but each of them reveals a rich, honest, and dynamic connectivity to God. Together, we’ll learn not only how to pray, but how to live in ongoing, transformative relationship with the One who hears.

This week we are looking at a prayer that King David prayed after he was confronted about his sin with Bathsheba.

#### **Read Psalm 51.**

#### **Reflection Questions:**

On Sunday we introduced four movements in prayer, based on this Psalm. This week, spend some time interacting with these movements by writing out your own version of a Psalm in four parts.

##### **1. Appeal to God’s Character (51:1-2)**

David appeals to God’s mercy, love, and compassion. Reflect on God’s character. In addition to the virtues David appeals to, what other aspects of God’s character stand out to you personally when you think about who God is? Are there images or metaphors you are drawn to? How might these virtues be important when you are confessing your sins to God?

*Write out your own short psalm appealing to God’s character.*

##### **2. Acknowledge my Condition (51:3-6)**

David writes about his sinfulness. He is fairly general here, but he is clear. What about you? How do you think about your own sin?

*Write out your own short psalm acknowledging your sins. It’s not about getting the words right, just about getting them out before God.*

Besides God, who would you like to read this confession to? Is there anything stopping you from sharing this psalm with another person? Bring this before God and ask for the clarity and courage to follow His promptings.



### **3. Ask for Cleansing (51:7-14)**

In Matthew 23:25 Jesus says, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence."

*Write out a psalm asking God to cleanse your insides and outsides. Pray that he will help you to be the same person in private as you are in public.*

### **4. Adoration and Communion (51:15-19)**

You may want to listen to your favorite worship song. One of the songs from this past Sunday was "Jesus Paid it All."

*And now, record your own psalm of praise, thanking God for who He is and what He has done.*

Sometime this week, review all the prayers you have written. Notice what it feels like in your spirit to be forgiven and free.