

MY MERCY PLEA

I confess the multitude of my sins and appeal to God's mercy for forgiveness.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ 2 Samuel 11 gives an account of King David, who committed two sins in a very short period of time.
- ❖ First, he sinned against himself and a woman named Bathsheba by committing adultery with her. (See 1 Corinthians 6:18. *Through this act, David was sinning against his own body.*)
- ❖ More than that, his action could be seen as rape. In David's day and time, with the ultimate power he possessed as king, the stakes were extremely high should Bathsheba have chosen to refuse him.
- ❖ He followed up this action by sinning grievously against her husband Uriah. He sent orders to the army chief-of-staff to have Uriah killed in battle after Bathsheba became pregnant with David's child.
- ❖ He then did everything necessary to cover his tracks and went about his business, as if nothing had happened. That is, until God spoke to Nathan the prophet and sent him to the palace to confront David.
- ❖ It is after this confrontation that David, knowing he deserved nothing but death, penned the words we read in Psalm 51.

"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions" (v1).
- ❖ As we read these words, we see that there are no excuses. He just got right to the point and said, "Have mercy upon me, O God."
- ❖ One thing we know for sure is that this wasn't the only time he sinned, disobeyed, and failed God badly. There was the incident involving the Ark of the Covenant (see 2 Samuel 6; Numbers 4:5, 15; 7:1-9), as well as taking a national census *his way*, not God's (see 2 Sam. 24; Exodus 30:11-16). This latter action resulted in the death of 70,000 men (2 Sam. 24:15).
- ❖ So, what did David know about God that we also need to know as we deal with the sins we commit from time to time?
 1. He knew that God is omnipresent. He's right there with us every time we sin. There is no point in thinking we can hide anything from Him.
 2. He knows the motivation behind every sin we commit.
 3. God hates sin.
 4. God will punish sin.
 5. God loves to extend mercy to His children.
 6. God will forgive our sins if we repent.
- ❖ In all of God's righteousness and holiness, He absolutely loves to dispense grace and mercy to those who have sinned!
- ❖ But there are two very important conditions that must be satisfied for us to receive this incredible gift of forgiveness:

KEY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 51:1-4

- 1) we have to confess our sins to God; and
 - 2) If we want mercy, we must first give mercy.
- ❖ Trying to excuse or justify our sins gets us nowhere with God! There is no mercy and no forgiveness without confession, acknowledgment, and repentance.
 - ❖ Here David gives us a positive example: after defeating Goliath he should have been a hero in Israel till the day he died. Instead, in uncontrolled jealousy, King Saul appointed 3,000 specially chosen soldiers whose only job was to search out, find and kill David.
 - ❖ During this time, David had two opportunities to take care of his 'Saul situation'—permanently. But on both occasions David showed mercy to Saul and spared his life.
 - ❖ When David quickly ran to God with his Mercy Plea, he knew he was guilty and should die for what he had done to Bathsheba and Uriah. But he had an expectation of receiving mercy from God for *his* sin, just as he had showed mercy for Saul's sin.
 - ❖ That's our lesson today. Realize that God sees and knows everything, and nothing is hidden from Him. He is a just judge who will punish sin, but He is also a loving Father who delights in showing mercy.
 - ❖ Here's a little exercise:
 - a) Get a pen/pencil and small piece of paper.
 - b) Write on it the name of the person who *has* caused/*is* causing the most trouble in your life (the person you can't seem to forgive).
 - c) Now, write a few words to describe what they've done against you (the situation you can't seem to get over). For example: "She lied about me to so and so and totally destroyed our relationship."
 - ❖ This is a very private act and nobody but God should see what you've written.
 - ❖ d) Now, before your next Mercy Plea to God, show mercy to this person who doesn't deserve it. Flush this paper down the toilet, in your mind, saying to this individual, "I release you. I forgive you. I extend mercy to you, just as God has extended mercy to me, and just as I pray He will do in the future."
 - ❖ "God, have mercy on me. This is my plea."

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Complete steps a) through d) above.
2. If comfortable, share with the group what you wrote in step (c). What was the impact of this person's words/actions at the time? Do you still feel that way today—why or why not?
3. Ask God for His help in healing this wound.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) 🤔 (Think about)

! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ↔ (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

Start-up: Which is easier: to "forgive and forget" or to hold a grudge? What makes it easier or harder to do one over the other?



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to
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Search Me, O God

Search me, O God, and know
my heart today,
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts,
I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin, and set me
free.

O Holy Ghost, revival comes from
Thee;
Send a revival, start the work in me;
Thy Word declares Thou wilt supply
our need;
For blessings now, O Lord, I humbly
plead.

FAITH SANCTUARY ON-LINE SERVICES

SUNDAY @ 10:15 a.m. – Sunday Bible Study
SUNDAY @ 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service LIVE
SUNDAY @ 3:00 and 8:00 p.m. – Worship
Service Rebroadcast
MONDAY @ 6:30 p.m. – Berean Bible Study on
Zoom, Facebook, YouTube
WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 p.m. – Worship Service
Rebroadcast

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

JUNE 6, 2021


S A N C T U A R Y
Know Jesus, Love Jesus, Share Jesus

2021 ~ Live It! ~ 2021

Pastor: Rev. Granville E. McKenzie

*"With the merciful You will
show Yourself merciful; with a
blameless man You will show
Yourself blameless; With the
pure You will show Yourself
pure; and with the devious You
will show Yourself shrewd."
2 Samuel 22:26-27 NKJV*

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