

Sunday Morning Worship

August 17, 2025



**FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO**

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

301-952-0117 :: www.fbcum.org :: fbcum@firstbaptistum.com

Order of Worship

August 17, 2025

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship — 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

Celebration of Baptism

Prayer of Praise

Song — Christ Is All in All

Song — Only a Holy God / Holy, Holy, Holy

Scripture Reading — 2 Samuel 12:1-15

Pastoral Prayer

Song — Lord, Have Mercy

Prayer of Thanks

Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — Zach Schlegel

“Against You Have I Sinned”

Psalm 51

Song — Forgiven

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (ESV)

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<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

## Christ Is All in All

Kristyn Getty | Dwan Hill | Ben Shive

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Verse 1:

Sons and daughters of the King,
rise up and sing
that Christ is all in all.
Sing the glories of His name,
together proclaim
that Christ is all in all.

Chorus:

See how He loves us; children of God!
Now let us love each other.
If He has called us children of God,
That's who we are, His chosen and beloved.

Verse 2:

Brothers, sisters, build upon this cornerstone
for Christ is all in all.
Worship Him with lives renewed,
in Spirit and Truth
for Christ is all in all.

Verse 3:

Bound together by His blood, rooted in love
where Christ is all in all.
Standing in one faith, one Lord, one holy accord
where Christ is all in all.

Bridge:

Look at what the Lord has done;
Made us one by the blood of Jesus!
Look at what the Lord has done;
Now we love with the love of Jesus!

Only a Holy God / Holy, Holy, Holy

Michael Farren | Jonny Robinson | Dustin Smith | Rich Thompson

Verse 1:

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

Verse 2:

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendour outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a Holy God

Chorus:

Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Verse 3:

What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

Verse 4:

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God
Only my Holy God!

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty
God in three persons, Blessed Trinity

Scripture Reading — 2 Samuel 12:1-15 (ESV)

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<sup>1</sup> And the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> The rich man had very many flocks and herds, <sup>3</sup> but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. <sup>4</sup> Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.” <sup>5</sup> Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, <sup>6</sup> and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”

<sup>7</sup> Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup> And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. <sup>9</sup> Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. <sup>10</sup> Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’ <sup>11</sup> Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. <sup>12</sup> For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.’” <sup>13</sup> David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. <sup>14</sup> Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die.” <sup>15</sup> Then Nathan went to his house.

# Lord, Have Mercy

Matt Papa | Matt Boswell | Aaron Keyes | James Tealy

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## **Verse 1:**

For what we have done and left undone  
We fall on your countless mercies  
For sins that are known, and those unknown  
We call on Your name so holy  
For envy and pride, for closing our eyes  
For scorning our very neighbor  
In thought, word and deed  
We've failed You, our King  
How deeply we need a Savior.

## **Chorus:**

Lord Have mercy, Christ have mercy  
Lord Have mercy on us

## **Verse 2:**

For what You have done, Your life of love  
You perfectly lived, we praise You  
Though tempted and tried, You fixed Your eyes  
You finished the work God gave You  
And there on the tree, A King among thieves  
You bled for a world's betrayal  
You loved to the end, our merciful friend  
How pure and forever faithful.

## **Verse 3:**

For hearts that are cold, for seizing control  
For scorning our very Maker  
In thought, word and deed  
We've failed You, our King  
How deeply we need a Savior

## Sermon Notes

### **“Against You Have I Sinned” :: Psalm 51**

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Forgiven

Brittany Born | Kate DeGraide | Rebecca Elliott

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## **Verse 1:**

Lord, forgive us for our pride  
When our faith becomes a show  
Dressed in righteous deeds to hide  
All the stains below  
We have judged Your sons and daughters  
For the sin that is our own  
May we now forgive each other  
And lay down our stones

## **Chorus:**

Forgiven, forgiven  
Through the blood of Christ  
We are forgiven

## **Verse 2:**

Lord, forgive us for our love  
Of the things we wish to own  
We forsake the feast above  
For all the crumbs below  
Though You've made us sons and daughters  
We do not the world disown  
May we find our greatest treasure  
Is in You alone

## **Verse 3:**

Lord, forgive us for our shame  
When we can't release the past  
When we're quick to take the blame  
But forget we're free at last  
We avoid Your sons and daughters  
For the fear we don't belong  
Give us eyes to see each other  
Through Your only Son



## **This Week at First Baptist Church**

### **Sunday, August 17**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship w/ Baptism

### **Monday, August 18**

### **Tuesday, August 19**

### **Wednesday, August 20**

6:30 PM Band Rehearsal

### **Thursday, August 21**

### **Friday, August 22**

### **Saturday, August 23**

### **Sunday, August 24**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes  
10:00 AM Sunday Worship w/ Baptism  
12:00 PM Church Members Meeting

## **Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church**

### **Sunday, August 24**

Church Members Meeting — immediately following worship service

### **Wednesday, September 3**

6:30 PM — Church Prayer Meeting

### **Wednesday, September 10**

Regular Wednesday Evening Schedule Resumes  
(AWANA, Bible Study, King's Kids & Adult Choirs)

### **Sunday, September 14**

5:00 PM — Church Picnic on the Front Lawn

### **Sunday, October 26**

Starting Point Seminar — immediately following worship service  
(Seminar for those interested in church membership. Contact the church office to register  
or use the Digital Communication Card on the back of this bulletin.)

# Praying with First Baptist Church

## A Prayer Guide for the week of August 17

### **Prayer of the week:**

One way we learn to pray is by using the examples in Scripture as a springboard and inspiration for our own prayer life. This week, we encourage you to use the prayer of the Apostle Paul from the book of Romans 15:5-6:

*“<sup>5</sup> May the God of endurance and encouragement  
grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup> that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

We recognize our need for God’s help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

### **Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God’s word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God’s glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

### **Prayer items outside our church:**

- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)

- Pray for those recently effected by natural disasters (flooding in Texas and New York). Pray God would provide for immediate needs and preserve life. Pray God would comfort those grieving the death of loved ones. Pray for relief workers to work safely and quickly to bring stability (Psalm 119:88; 34:18)
- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we have direct partnerships with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison and Susanna Schriever (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray that God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)

### **Particular prayer items in the life of our church:**

- Pray for our upcoming Members Meeting on August 24 after worship. Pray that God would continually help us to grow in unity and service to one another as fellow believers here at FBCUM and help us work together for kingdom purposes. (Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for teachers and students in our church family who are going back to school in the coming weeks. Pray they would depend on God and trust Him as they start a new school year. Pray that learning and teaching would be done with excellence to the glory of God (Prov. 3:5-6; 1 Cor. 10:31). See a list of out-of-town college students toward the back of your church directory.
- Pray that God brings good spiritual fruit in the lives of our children and students through Vacation Bible School (June 23-27) and Youth Summer Camp (July 13-17). (Gal 5:22-23)
- Pray that our church family would not grow weary of doing good. Pray that we would live and interact with one another in a way that reveals God's steadfast love and mercy to the world. (Gal 6:9)
- Pray that we know a profound contentment no matter what circumstances we find ourselves in – a contentment from knowing God is our help. (Heb. 13:5-6)
- Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray that we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (John 13:34-35)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

**Margaret Austin, Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Jim and Pat Ernster, Jackie Jones (death of daughter), Lucie Lowe, Melissa Thomaswicks, Bonnie Trott, Glenn Walker**

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

## Ministry Spotlight

“Ministry Spotlight” is meant to bring to your attention active church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope that each month you will pray for all those serving and consider how you may support their efforts. *You may notify us if you would like to learn more about the ministries at FBCUM by using the Digital Communication Card (see QR code on the back of this bulletin). Pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

### Meal Train Ministry

A Meal Train is a ministry for our church family to support each other by coordinating and providing meals for someone who may need extra support during a trying time. It provides an opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ to members of our church that have just given birth to a baby, or suffering through an illness or perhaps may be recovering from a surgery. This is a sampling of some of the reasons we initiate a Meal Trains.

Morgan Neptune, leads this ministry and is very passionate about the Meal Train Ministry because, she personally was blessed through this ministry not long after joining First Baptist Church of Upper Marlboro. Morgan’s personal testimony: *“About a month or two after my husband and I became members of FBCUM, we welcomed our little girl into the world and were recipients of a Meal Train. I know firsthand what a blessing this act of kindness can be by so many church members. We were truly touched. It was also an amazing opportunity to meet our church family that I may not have otherwise met. I was honored when asked to take over heading up the Meal Train ministry. It has been such an incredible privilege.”*



We call the Meal Train, a call to serve. When they are made aware that there is a specific need to support a family or individual or if a request is made, a Meal Train is created. Details are provided regarding any food allergies or any other dietary restrictions. They seek to ensure that the recipients are receiving a meal that will be enjoyed and helpful. Once this information is secured, the Meal Train is formally submitted by email with a link to the page. Meal

Train participants will open the link and review the details to include any food allergies, dietary restrictions, along with the dates that the meals are to be presented to the family or individual. Meal Train participants may select from the list any date or dates they are available to provide a meal, and drop it off on the designated date. There is no obligation to participate on any given Meal Train. The more people we have on the Meal Train, makes it successful because you may not be available this time but someone else may be and vice versa.

## Ministry Spotlight

If you are a busy person looking for a ministry that you can join in to help when there is a need, this may be perfect for you. The Meal Train is an, as needed ministry. Participants will receive an email when a Meal Train has started, they can just click on the link and sign up to provide a meal on a specific date when they choose. This process prevents confusion and both the recipient and the participant will know what is scheduled for that date. Does this sound like the perfect opportunity for you to serve?



***Next week we will share a few more insights about the Meal Train and meet the coordinator, Morgan Neptune and learn how you can get involved with this awesome ministry that brings love in every bite.***

***Our church is excited about serving and loving our church family well. We believe no matter what stage of life you are in, there is something that you can do to support the ministries of this church. The Ministry Spotlight series is intended to give you a behind the scenes look at each of our ministries. If you have a ministry idea, that you believe will be beneficial to this body of believers or others, you are encouraged to share your thoughts with Pastor Tyrone Moorehead for consideration or email the church office at: [fbcum@firstbaptistum.com](mailto:fbcum@firstbaptistum.com)***

# Announcements

1. **Church Members' Meeting — Sunday, August 24.** Lord willing, we will have our regularly scheduled Members' Meeting immediately following the worship service on Sunday, August 24. Memberships, revised constitution, prayer needs, ministry reports, and budget update are all on the agenda. Minutes from our previous Members' Meeting will be available on 8/17 in the office.

2. **Mark Your Calendar.** Here are a few upcoming dates to remember (also see pg. 8):

- **August 24** :: Church Members Meeting — immediately following worship service
- **September 3** :: 6:30 PM — Church Prayer Meeting
- **September 10** :: 6:30 PM — Wed. Evening Schedule Resumes (AWANA, Bible Study, Choirs)
- **September 14** :: 5:00 PM — Church Picnic on the Front Lawn

3. **AWANA Registration OPEN.** Awana is a Bible memory program for children, 3 years old through 6th grade designed to help the church come alongside parents as they disciple their children. Club meetings are exciting times with Bible lessons, energetic game time, and small groups where kids recite verses they've studied at home! We meet weekly from 6:30-8:00pm on Wednesdays (Sept - May) except the first Wednesday of each month when we have church prayer meetings. Fees vary but are generally \$35 or less per child. Questions? Contact Ronnie and Chrissy Sweetman. Register using the QR code.



4. **Preschool Volunteers Needed.** We are in need of a few more adult volunteers in the nursery to help provide a caring environment for our kiddos (aged 0-4) during worship. Volunteers serve on a six-week rotation schedule (about 8x a year). There are no special skills required except a love for kiddos and their families. If you're interested or have questions, contact Pam Jensen or Ashley Meekins-Smith ASAP.

5. **Join the Intercessory Prayer Ministry.** This ministry provides prayer for our leadership, members, and those with whom we partner in ministry. Team members devote one hour a week praying in the prayer room and following up with various requests and updates. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or getting more information, please contact the ministry team leader, Bernice McGuire (301-233-3303).

6. **Giving.** We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:

- **online**: click the link or scan the QR code,
- **in-person**: designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service,
- **by mail**: send to the church office.

Church members with a benevolence request, please contact the church office.



## **Digital Communication Card**

Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You're always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.

# Praying Psalm 51 — Against You Have I Sinned

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For 2 or 3 days this week, set aside 15 minutes to pray through Psalm 51. For help on how to pray the Psalms, refer back to the bulletin insert from July 6 “Singing and Praying the Psalms”.

Psalm 51. CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD. ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. ⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. ⁶ Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. ¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. ¹⁶ For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

¹⁸ Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem; ¹⁹ then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Praising God: Praise God for His steadfast love (v1)! Praise God for His abundant grace and mercy that is able to cleanse us from the guilt and shame of our sins and renew a right relationship with Him.

Confessing Sin: In light of His steadfast love, we can be honest with God and others about our sin. God delights in the truthfulness of our hearts (v6). Confess your sins to God—your failures and shortcomings. If David’s “sin is ever before me” (v3) then surely ours is also at the front of our minds and the tips of our tongues, so be specific. Confess ways you’ve sinned against God and others today, this week, etc—in thought, word, or deed. Talk to Him about how your sin has effected you, those you’ve sinned against, and your relationship with Him.

Following God: As you honestly and humbly confess your sin, trust that God will indeed cleanse, renew, and restore you (vv7-12). Ask God to help you believe this and to live out your faith in a way that leads others to praise God, to confess their sins, and to live for God’s glory (vv13-19).

Things to Pray for First Baptist Church:

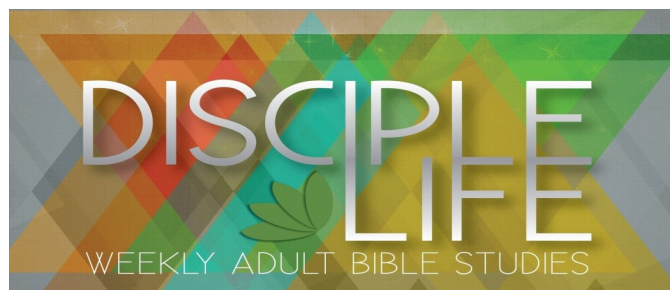
1. When faced with the difficult realities and consequences of our sin, pray that our church family would lean in to God’s steadfast love and not selfishly or proudly push against His loving care and discipline. Pray that we would increasingly grow in our delight of God’s abundant grace and mercy.
2. Pray that we would be quick to honestly and humbly confess our sin to God, repent of our sinful ways, and trust Him to restore our souls. Pray that confession of sin would be part of our normal Christian practice together as a church family.
3. Pray that repentance and faith would fuel our worship and evangelism to others.

Singing Psalm 51 — “Lord, Have Mercy”

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Having prayed through Psalm 51, now take the time to sing a song that was inspired by the truths of the psalm titled, “Lord, Have Mercy”, by Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Aaron Keyes, and James Tealy. A recording can be found anywhere you listen to music online as well as on the church webpage under the resources for this week’s sermon. Lyrics can be found on pg. 6 of this bulletin.





## **Fall 2025 (Sept. - Nov.) DiscipleLIFE Classes for adults:**

**FALL SESSION BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPT 7 @ 9AM**

To help us prepare, we are asking that everyone sign up for the class they wish to attend by [clicking here](#).

### **Explore the Bible – Numbers/Deuteronomy:**

As road trips wind down, travelers start thinking about the work waiting for them back home. The ancient Israelites were no exception. The books of Numbers and Deuteronomy recount how the nation of Israel wandered in the wilderness for four decades and how God taught them to be His people as they approached the promised land. He wanted to remind them how much still needed to be done once they got “home.” As you study these final two books of the Pentateuch, ask God to show you what He longs to accomplish in you and through you. Learn how to avoid a life of spiritual wandering and embrace the best He has to offer. (Books available in room 117/118 starting Sunday, 8/24.)

- **Explore the Bible (Coed) — Room 117/118 :: Teachers: Bill Lowry & Tony Edwards**
- **Explore the Bible (Women) — Room 115 :: Teacher: Tanya Joy**

*If you are remaining in your current Explore the Bible Class, there is no need to sign up again.*

### **Elective Class — Assurance of Salvation and the Doctrine of Conversion (Coed):**

“Am I really a Christian? How can I know? What if my confidence is based on the wrong thing? What if my despair is misinformed? What is a Christian?” Come join us as we dig into God’s word and look at the doctrine of conversion to understand what it means to be a Christian and how God creates a people for Himself. In looking at the doctrine of conversion, we’ll consider how it applies to our individual lives, families, parenting, and our life together as a church.

- **Room 114 :: Teachers - Zach Schlegel & Zak Kergel**

### **Elective Class — Gospel-Centered Work (Young Adult Coed):**

In this class you’ll discover how the good news about Jesus transforms the way we think about our work in surprising and practical ways. The study guide will be available for \$9.00

- **Room 112 :: Teachers - Tyrone Moorehead and TBD**

**\*\* DiscipleLIFE classes for all ages meet every Sunday morning at 9am. \*\***





# Singing and Praying the Psalms

## [Psalm 51](#)

"Stand in Awe of God"— August 17, 2025



### Introduction

To understand this particular Psalm, we need to look at the situation that led to it. David has sinned. ([2 Samuel 11:2 - 21](#)) Then, he tried to cover up the results of his sin. When David's plan A didn't work, he went to plan B resulting in the death of Uriah. It looked like David got away with his sin, but he didn't. Nathan the prophet confronted him. ([2 Samuel 12](#))

Do you ever wish that you could take back something that you thought, said or did? Do you know what it is like to carry the backpack of guilt? Do you know what it is like to feel dirty and weighted down with guilt? What is a Christian supposed to do with that guilt? Psalm 51 is a guide for you when you have blown it and feel the weight and burden of sin. This Psalm helps you to know the way home back to God. So, what should you do with your guilt?

### Sermon Outline

1. Confess your guilt. Vs. 1-5
2. Look at your future with confidence. Vs. 6-8
3. Pray for restoration. Vs. 9-19

### Read & Discuss

#### 1. Read vs. 1 – 5

Ever since Genesis 3, we've been trying to hide, blame or rationalize our sin. Are you worried about what people will think of you because of your sin? You may think that the way to preserve your life, after you have sinned, is to hide. The true way to preserve your life and find the path to joy is to come clean, come into the light of God's presence, agree with God and admit your guilt.

You can't push it off. Agreeing with God about your sin is necessary. Do you see sin as serious? We are all born with a sinful nature. The world likes to think that humans are basically good. However, we are born with a sin nature, bent on doing sinful things. ([Jeremiah 17:9](#); [Mark 7:14-23](#))

David had sinned against Bathsheba, Uriah, and the nation, but here, he acknowledged that he had sinned against God only. Our world considers sin bad merely because of its effects on others. They care when others have been mistreated or hurt. There is little or no moral outrage that God has been offended. Our sin offends a holy, holy, holy God. Every human is made in God's image to represent and reflect God. All that you do and say shows what God is like. When you are loving, patient and just, you are saying that God is loving, patient and just. However when you lie, steal and cheat, you represent and reflect God wrongly and communicate to the world that God is a liar, a thief and a cheat. David's admission shows the seriousness of his sin against God, the Lawgiver. David realized that and confessed that he had done what was evil in God's sight. Knowing that our sin is chiefly offensive against a holy God exposes how horrible our sin is. Do you see your sin that way?

God is justified in judging sinners. David rooted his prayer in this knowledge by asking God to have mercy on him. David knew that mercy was abundant. Just as the father of the prodigal son responded with forgiveness, love, mercy, and celebration when his son came home, the heart of God displays that same forgiveness, love, and mercy when a sinner repents and confesses sin. ([Luke 15:11-23](#)) We confess our sins to God as well as other believers who remind us what God is like. ([James 5:16](#)) Your feelings will say to hide, but when you come clean with God, something beautiful happens.

#### 2. Read vs. 6 – 8

The tense of the verbs in these verses is "imperfect" indicating a future tense. David has come to the end of himself and come to God who gives hope and confidence.

"Truth in the inward being" is being honest in your heart of hearts. God delights in honesty. God wants faithfulness and integrity. Sin is a result of corruption and evil in your hearts. Have there been times when you thought you could clean yourself up and be ok? Did your efforts give you hope? When you confess your sin, God will change your heart, and He will give you hope.

David was ashamed, dirty and defiled because of his sin, but he was confident in God who would purge him with hyssop and clean him. David was crushed under the weight of sin. ([Psalm 32](#)) He confessed his sin, and God responded by letting David hear joy and gladness again. True and lasting hope is in God's promises.

### 3. Read vs. 9-19

David wanted his relationship to be restored with God. Verses nine through twelve are like a spiritual diagnostic test. Do you need spiritual restoration? David longed for a clean conscience, strength to change, to be useful to God, and for joy to be restored. Do you see any of these longings in your heart? This psalm shows you how to pray and be restored.

God cannot look upon sin. The stain of sin on David was big and deep, and David couldn't stand the fact that God's face would be turned away. He asked God to erase his sin. He wanted God to remove it from the books. ([Psalm 103:12](#)) God's forgiveness means that He will not bring up the sin against you again. Satan will try to remind you about your sin, but God will not! You cannot scrub the shame of sin out of your heart, but God can. He blots it out completely.

David needed God's strength to be made new with a right spirit. Being a Christian and confession of sin is not just hitting a reset button. Having God's Spirit sets you free from sin. He gives you His Spirit, and helps you to say "no" to sin. ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#))

When you sin, do you think that you are no longer useful to God? Do you think that you've blown it forever? David may have thought this because of what he saw in Saul. He saw that Saul refused to repent of sin, and God gave the kingdom to David. While David still had to live with the consequences of sin, he was still useful to God.

David remembered a time when he had joy, and now he wanted it restored. When you pray in God's will, He hears. You can be confident of that. The bones that were crushed because of sin will be restored.

This is a wonderful story of God's mercy, but put yourself in the shoes of Bathsheba, her parents, and Uriah's parents. They wanted justice! How could God forgive? How was this right? Do you just assume that God is supposed to forgive? Do you take His forgiveness for granted? God is merciful, but He is just. He will forgive, but never at the expense of justice.

This Psalm reminds us that David needed a Deliverer. So do we. ([vs. 14](#)) There would be a Messiah in the line of David who would not fail. Jesus is the sinless One. When He died on the cross, He did so in our place. Jesus is how God forgives and remains just. For those who repent and come to Christ, there is no condemnation. ([Romans 8:1](#)) David was looking forward to a Savior who would come. We look back on a Savior who has come. If you trust in Christ, you will be cleansed and forgiven. Confess your sin. Run to Christ. He will cleanse you and restore you.

The result is that, as a forgiven sinner, we have much to sing about! Sin runs deep, but the blood of Jesus can cleanse you. God is not interested in the externals of religion. ([vs. 16](#)) There must be heart change. God can bring that about. David longed to be useful. Do you have that same longing? You can show others the path back "home." This psalm has shown generations of sinners the way back to God. David wanted this forgiveness, mercy, and restoration for everyone. As a Christian, our praise should give honor to God, but so should our life, trust and obedience. ([Romans 12:1-2](#))

### Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at.

**Next week's sermon text:** [Psalm 95](#) "The Lord Is Great"

## Family Guide for week of August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*



### Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc.)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [\*The Big Picture Story Bible\*](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [\*Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home\*](#).

## Family Guide for week of August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*Deuteronomy 6:6-7* And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



### **Bible Intake:** (Listening to God)

Day 1 – Acts 17:22-34

Day 2 – Acts 18:1-17

Day 3 – Acts 18:18-23

Day 4 – Acts 18:24-19:10

Day 5 – Acts 19:11-20

\*Read **Psalm 95** preparation for church on Sunday, August 24, 2025

### **Prayer:** (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 22 of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Ask God to help you see things you and others can do for His glory.

### **Sing together**

"Forgiven" – Using the bulletin from Sunday.

### **Memory verses for the month**

**Proverbs 3:7** *"Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil."*

**Colossians 1:15-16a** *"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth."*

### **Catechism question for the week<sup>1</sup>**

**Question 5: What else did God create?**

**Answer:** God created all things, and all His creation was very good.

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<sup>1</sup> New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)