

Week 3 of March
Restoring Your Relationship with God

- **Text:** Psalm 51:10~12 (March 13)
- **Point:** When we repent, we can experience the grace of forgiveness and restoration of our sins.

≡ **1. Praise**

Create In Me A Clean Heart by Keith Green

≡ **2. Prayer**

God, we want you to let go of our busy mind and focus on You. Please be with us as we worship and let us learn your Word.

≡ **3. The Word**

Read Psalm 51:10~12 together (read the verse 3 times).

* Reading the Word over and over again in different translations will help you to deepen your understanding of the material.

<King James Version of the Bible>

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.

<NASB>

10 Create in me a clean heart, God,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me away from Your presence,
And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
And sustain me with a willing spirit.

Understanding Text

David became the king of Israel by God's grace, but he committed a great sin against God's law. David realizes that his relationship with God has been broken because of his sins, so he prays for repentance. David prays for a clean heart in him and a renewal of an upright spirit, asking God for the grace to restore him.

Understanding the text for leaders

The setting of Psalm 51 is "when the prophet Nathan came to David after he had slept with Bathsheba." David, who was a shepherd boy in Bethlehem, became king of Israel by God's outpouring of energy. When David became king, he won the war and went from strength to strength. However, David, who was arrogant and forgot about God, made a great mistake. Instead of going to war against Ammon, he stayed in the king's palace and slept with Uriah's wife, Bathsheba. When Bathsheba became pregnant, David sent Uriah to die in a fierce battle to hide his sins (2 Samuel 11). God sent the prophet Nathan to David to see if he had committed the crime Let them expose their faults (2 Samuel 12). David realizes his sin and writhes in anguish. David's daily repentance and desire to repair his broken relationship with God is evident in Psalm 51. He prays for God to cleanse him and create a new heart. I confess that I cannot live apart from God, and I ask Him not to cast me out from Him and not to withdraw His Holy Spirit.

4. Sharing

1) What was David's greatest fear of when he sinned? (verse 11).

Upper Grades

What did David ask God not to do? (verse 11).

Lower Grades

What was David's greatest fear? (verse 11).

Question Guide

When we sin, we have worries and fears in our hearts. Talk about what David feared most when he sinned against Bathsheba.

Comments for Leaders

When David realizes through the prophet Nathan that his violation of Bathsheba is a sin, he doesn't want God to do two things to him. It's one thing to cast yourself out from God, and it's another to take the Spirit of the Lord away from you. It all means a break in your relationship with God. David knows that man cannot live without God, so he doesn't want these two things to happen to him.

2) Think about when you sin and what you can do to stop sinning.

Upper Grades

Have you ever wished God wasn't there? Talk about why you felt that way.

Lower Grades

When does God say to you, "No!" Or, "Well done!"?

Question Guide

Everyone has weaknesses that make them susceptible to sin. When we identify it and deal with it, we can no longer fall into sin. Reflect on the sins you often commit and think about what you can do to cut them off.

□ Comments for Leaders

David was unconscious of God when he sinned. His lust, greed, and selfishness took precedence over God. In order to sensitively distinguish between what pleases God and what is not, we must be conscious of God and strive to be close to Him. To do this, you can read, listen to, memorize God's Word, pray and sing hymns, or worship God. After all, we can stay away from sin when we try to draw close to God.

≡ 5. Be Grateful

Thank God for always embracing me with plenty of love and forgiving me, even though I am lacking and full of mistakes.

≡ 6. Prayer

God, please forgive us for our weakness in succumbing to the temptation to sin, even though we know it is wrong. Please give us an honest heart that shuns any sin, big or small, and help us draw close to You every day and resemble You.

- End the family worship service with the "The Lord's Prayer"
