



DAILY DEVOTIONS



What does this passage say?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What does this passage tell us about man?



What does this passage demand of me?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?

SESSION

EPHESIANS 2:1-10

When we watch the Olympics, we have a sense of pride when our country wins. And yet, we don't have any grounds for boasting ourselves. We didn't do anything to earn or achieve that victory. And so it is with our salvation. Jesus has been our representative. We were incapable of saving ourselves, even spiritually dead. But God saved us by His grace alone. Don't get over the gift of salvation. Be amazed again and again by God's mercy and love in Jesus Christ.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO NEVER GET OVER WHAT JESUS HAS DONE TO SAVE YOU?

WHAT CAN WE BOAST IN IF NOT OURSELVES?

HOW CAN YOU SHOW YOUR GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S SALVATION?

DAY 02

PSALM 51:1-2

WHAT DO YOU BASE YOUR REQUEST FOR FORGIVENESS ON?

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CONFESSED TO GOD?

HOW CAN YOU BE CONFIDENT THAT HE WILL FORGIVE YOU?

When David sinned, he sought the Lord's forgiveness. In Psalm 51, we find David's confession and request. Notice what he based his request for forgiveness upon. (Ps. 51:1-2) He did not ask for forgiveness because of his sin, but because of the Lord's character. If we are to experience God's grace, it will only be because of His faithful love and His mercy. And you, too, can have mercy on your sins. Trust in God's faithfulness. He will not forsake you. Know His love and mercy. Trust in Him because of His character.

DAY 03

PSALM 51:3-5

All of our sin is ultimately against God Himself. He is the one who made us and the one to whom our lives belong. It is right that we should ask forgiveness from the people we have sinned against. But it is critical that we see that our sin is always against God. He is the one we must stand before and give an account of our lives to. May we always sense our need for God's mercy. May we always be aware, as David was, of what we truly deserve. And may that compel us toward a greater appreciation for the mercy we have been given in Christ.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CONFESSED YOUR SIN TO GOD?

WHY DO WE NEED TO CONFESS ON A REGULAR BASIS?

WHO ELSE MIGHT YOU NEED TO ASK FOR FORGIVENESS?

PSALM 51:6-12

HOW CAN YOU SEEK CHANGE RATHER THAN JUST FORGIVENESS?

HOW DOES SIN STEAL OUR JOY?

HOW MIGHT JOY MOTIVATE GODLINESS?

David wanted more than just forgiveness; David wanted to be pure. Often we want God's mercy, but we don't really want to be changed. But God wants to change us! David prayed for a new heart and a renewed joy. How can those who have been forgiven so much not be energized by His grace? We ought to have more joy in God with each experience of His mercy. Don't just ask God for forgiveness; ask for a clean heart, new desires, and fresh joy—that is the path to lasting godliness.

DAY 05

PSALM 51:13-19

Change begins on the inside—not with a religious ritual, but with a humbled heart. The heart is the steering wheel of your life. When your heart is changed by God, it will show on the outside. You will praise God (see v. 13). You will want others to experience the grace of God, too (see v. 15). What begins on the inside will show up in every situation and relationship. Give your heart to God and allow Him to use your life and testimony for His glory.

WHY MIGHT IT BE GOOD TO HAVE A BROKEN HEART OVER YOUR SIN?

HOW HAS GOD CHANGED YOUR HEART IN THIS SEASON OF YOUR LIFE?

HOW CAN GOD TURN YOUR MESS INTO A MINISTRY?