

Bible Group Curriculum

Enjoying God's Love ~ Psalm 51

Bible EFC Sermon Text for July 3, 2011 ~ Tim Erickson

“Have Mercy On Me O God”

Disclosure Questions:

- What difference has Jesus Christ made in your life since the last time you met with this group?
- On a scale of 1-10 how much does the weather (ever changing in WI) impact you (mood/plans)?
- When and where was the best fireworks display you have ever been witness to?

Launching Question(s):

- ❖ Romans 3:23 says that: “all have sinned and fallen short” – what percentage of your sin do you assume you are aware of at any one time?
- ❖ On a regular basis what bothers you most about sin: how it disrupts/destroys relationships/interactions with other people or how it impacts your relationship with God? Why?

Understanding Questions:

Have Someone Read: Psalm 51:1-19 (as time allows read in multiple versions)

- If time allows give a quick read to 2 Samuel 11:1-27: In how many ways did David sin in the Bathsheba affair?
- Based on that story as a background to this text, knowing what David did, how can he so confidently address God as he does?
- How often do you confidently express/implement verses 1-2 as a part of your life – hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, when things get real bad?
- Based on verse 3: Did David know his transgressions? How was David made aware of them?
- Do you know your transgressions?
- How do you react when others identify them for you?
- Did you know verse 4 when you read it? Do you know the truth of that verse now? Will you own that verse and all of its implications this week and beyond?
- Do you agree with verse 5? What wide ranging implications does this verse have?
- In verses 7-12 what is David asking God to do?
- How does David hope to escape God's wrath (v13-17)? On what basis does he hope for a restored relationship?
- What kinds of sacrifices does the Lord desire in verses 16-17, 19? When is a broken spirit or contrite heart enough? When are acts of sacrifice due?
- In verses 18 the prayer turns from very personal to very general including the whole nation – how might that perspective impact your prayers?

Application Challenges:

- ✓ Is there sin in your life that you need to confess to God right now? Don't wait...do it now!
- ✓ As a group allow prayer time to have a high percentage of time for people to confess sin before God. Experience and then demonstrate together God's unconditional love and mercy.
- ✓ How can times of confession become more regular in your life/or the ongoing experience of this group?
- ✓ This week is it your role to be more like David and broken before the Lord, or is it possible that you might be like Nathan and confront sin that is impacting another/others? (Read Luke 6:42 First)

Group or Gender Specific Prayer Requests & Time in Prayer:

Some of the above questions have been adapted or recopied from the “Serendipity Bible”