**Create in Me a Pure Heart**

Psalm 51:1-19 (Read also 2 Samuel 11:1-12:13)

Key Verses: 51:10

1. According to the psalm’s subtitle, what was the circumstance for writing this psalm (cf. 2 Sam 11:1-12:13, Ex 20:1-17)? How was David rebuked and led to repentance and when was he forgiven (2Sam 12:13)? Read verses 1-2. On what basis, does David ask for forgiveness (1-2; Ex 34:6-7a)?
2. Read v. 3-6. How does David accept responsibility for his sin rather than justifying it or covering it up any more (Pr 28:13)? Read v.7-12. What does he pray to be rid of, and what does he pray to receive? In verses 13-15, besides being free of guilt, what is a blessed consequence of forgiveness?
3. Read v. 16-19. What does David know is more acceptable to God than burnt offerings and sacrifices (16-17)? How does David pray not only for himself but for his nation/community (18-19)?
4. According to Jesus, how is anyone guilty in spirit of breaking God’s commandments regarding adultery and murder (Mt 5:21-22,27-28)? Read Luke 18:9-14. Based on these verses, what kind of prayer is acceptable and unacceptable to God? What have you learned from David’s repentant prayer?