

# A SONG OF REPENTANCE

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## Psalm 51 | 2 Samuel 12:1-14

**01** What can make it hard to say sorry and admit that you are wrong?

**02** Read 1 Samuel 12:1-14, which provides the context for Psalm 51.

**03** List out the different sins David committed. Which commandments did he break?

**04** Why was Nathan's story so effective at convicting David of his sins against Bathsheba and Uriah?

**05** David's sin is understood as despising God (v.10) and his word (v.9), and showing 'utter contempt for the Lord' (v.14). How are the sins David committed related to his relationship with God?

**06** Read Psalm 51 and/or sing 'Create in me a clean heart' together.

**07** What aspects of God's character does David appeal to for mercy (v.1-2)?

**08** What can we learn about true repentance in verses 3 to 15?

**09** ‘You do not delight in sacrifice ... My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit’ (v.16-17). What does David mean? (Also look up 1 Sam 15:22 for greater context).

**10** What are the differences between showing regret and true repentance?

**11** Look up other Psalms that focus on repentance. Break up into pairs and briefly look at one or more of the following Psalms. Compare similarities and differences to Psalm 51.

Psalm 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 32 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 38 \_\_\_\_\_

**12** Why did Jesus see repentance as the way into God’s kingdom? (cf. Mk 1:15; Mt 9:12-13; Lk 5:32; 15:7; 24:47)

**13** How might we maintain a heart that is soft towards God?

**14** Spend a few moments thinking back over this study. What is one highlight, or action that you might take away?

**15** Pray for each other.