

4Ws

#WORTH IT

# TO FINISH WELL, WALK IN THE SPIRIT

MAY 28, 2023

## WORSHIP

Victory in Jesus,  
Your Grace Is Enough,  
Grace That Won't Let Go,  
Mighty to Save, Trust and  
Obey

## WELCOME

What would you say is the  
funniest mistake you've  
made? How about the most  
serious one?

## WORD

### PSALM 51:1-3, 16-17 (READ 2 SAMUEL 11 & 12 FOR CONTEXT)

Be gracious to me, O God,  
according to Your lovingkindness;  
According to the greatness of  
Your compassion blot out my  
transgressions. <sup>2</sup> Wash me  
thoroughly from my iniquity  
And cleanse me from my sin.  
<sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions,  
And my sin is ever before me.  
<sup>16</sup> For You do not delight in  
sacrifice, otherwise I would  
give it; You are not pleased with  
burnt offering. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifices  
of God are a broken spirit; A  
broken and a contrite heart, O  
God, You will not despise

At the end of your life, how do you want to be remembered? More importantly, what will God say about you? To live in God's presence, we need to **WALK IN THE SPIRIT**. The day we come to Jesus, the Holy Spirit enters our lives never to leave us, but we can put Him aside, when we choose to sin. **Galatians 5:16** commands us to "**walk by the Spirit**". You live day by day, aware of God's presence; always surrendered to His leading--- a lifestyle of obedience and submission to God's Spirit! Temptation is real – even if we are in Christ. Many Christians are defeated, have no power, because they are not surrendered to the Spirit (**Acts 1:8**).

SIN blocks the manifest presence and power of God in us (**Isaiah 59:2**). God is HOLY, He cannot tolerate sin. We learn from King David how to recover from disasters and moral failures. Satan will tell us we're finished – but with God, no one is beyond redemption. Learn not to live in the past, paralyzed by sin and instead WALK IN THE SPIRIT.

### 1. DEPENDENCE

David began so well. The Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him (**1 Samuel 16:13**). God's Spirit is given for power to serve and witness for Him. We need to be GOD-DEPENDENT. When David was a teenager, he faced Goliath – his confidence was God-centered, and claimed the truth that the battle is the Lord's (**1 Samuel 17:45-47**). Surrender your giants – be prayerful; lean on the Lord's instructions. David was also threatened by King Saul, but he was prayerful and communicated to God about what to do (**1 Samuel 23:2,4**). When he had the opportunity to kill Saul, he did not because Saul was the Lord's anointed (**1 Samuel 24:5-6**). He honored God, and respected whoever God anointed as king. When given another opportunity (**1 Samuel 26:8-11**), David did not allow the end to justify the means. He depended on God's plan and power – and so even if it was a stressful life, it was still a rested life for David! Adversity draws men to God. We depend on God when we

face problems. But once everything is okay, we forget God and become self-sufficient. David experienced success – he became king, won battles, and became independent.

At the height of his power, we find his greatest failure (**2 Samuel 11**). Idle in his palace while his men were at war, David was caught in temptation; instead of listening to the Spirit, he gave in. David knew Bathsheba was married, her husband was Uriah, her father was Eliam, her grandfather, Ahithophel – all trusted men of David. David made a choice – give in to temptation (**2 Samuel 11:4-5**). David had to cover up, lie and scheme so his sin will not be found. This was, "**evil in the sight of the Lord**" (**2 Samuel 11:27**). It broke apart his family as consequence to his one sin!

### 2. REPENTANCE

David sinned, and hid it. However, he was not at peace and was very troubled by guilt (**Psalms 32:3-4**). One of the assurance that you are a child of God is that when you commit sin, you feel awful

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(**Hebrews 12:6,10-11**). God allows consequences of sin to wake us up and sanctify us, letting us know how we are breaking our union with God.

The Lord sent the prophet Nathan to rebuke David (**2 Samuel 12**). Nathan risked his life by rebuking David. He told David a story, and David believed the rich man who stole a poor man's lamb must be punished. Nathan tells him he was the man! Confronted by this truth, David immediately confessed (**2 Samuel 12:13-14**) and was immediately forgiven. But the consequences of sin would still come. How did David repent?

- Admit
- Assume responsibility
- Accept consequences
- Appropriate God's forgiveness

We see David appeal to God's grace, lovingkindness, and compassion (**Psalms 51:1-3**). He assumes personal responsibility, claiming the wrong doing as his own (10 times in 3 verses). He confessed that he had done evil and accepted that he deserved the consequences (**Psalms 51:4**). There are collateral damages when we sin! David's sin was "despising the word" of God (**2 Samuel 12:9**). David deliberately disobeyed God's commandments! The consequences were given (**2 Samuel 12:10-12**) because the sin was ultimately done against God and His Name. True repentance is metanoia (**2 Corinthians 7:10**) – a change of mind, heart and behavior, resulting to a new direction from following yourself to following Jesus. William Taylor said "...repentance hates the sin... because it has discovered and felt God's love." Ultimately, sin is serious because it's against God! "A thousand years of remorse over a wrong act would not please God as much as a change of conduct and a reformed life" (AW Tozer). Repentance is a command (**Acts 2:38**) and is also a gift by God's grace (**Acts 11:18**). Our "entire life" must be of repentance (**1 John 1:9**). A Christian who had stopped repenting had stopped growing (Arthur Pink)!

### 3. WORSHIP

Worship is our proper response to who God is, what He has done, and what He continues to do in, through, and for us. If we have been forgiven, by God's grace, we will choose to worship, please, and honor God. **Psalm 51:10,12,13** are verses in David's prayer that shows he understood his need of a clean heart and a renewed, steadfast spirit. He asked for restoration of joy and sustenance of spirit and chose to worship God with a broken spirit and a contrite heart (**vv. 15-17**). In our brokenness and humility, we can approach His grace and as we worship Him from the heart, He will empower us to continue living a life pleasing to Him! At the end of David's life, God described him as a man after His heart (**Acts 13:22**) and one who had served the purpose of God in his generation (**Acts 13:36**). May we always choose to go after God's heart, do His will, and by His grace, power, and Spirit, FINISH WELL!

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

#### 1. Self-Check.

How do you know if you are dependent on God? What distinct things are you doing as you depend on God?

#### 2. Setting It Right.

What step/s in repentance do you find the hardest to do?

#### 3. Living It Out.

What does it mean for you to worship and surrender to God?

### WORKS

#### PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray for those who may be caught in sin, that they will hear God's word and be repentant, turn to Jesus. Share the truth of the gospel in love to them, including sin and its consequences. Share your own story of God's grace and redemption, and the blessings of walking in the Spirit so that others will be encouraged to live in God's presence!

### WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

#### I. Thanksgiving

• Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives.

#### II. Country and the World

• Upright and moral governance of public servants; repentance and salvation for government leaders and citizens for a Christ-centered Philippines.  
• God's help and comfort for the Sudanese people caught in violence and conflict.  
• War in Ukraine to end, loss of lives prevented; tension in East Asian and Middle East countries to stop.

#### III. Church

• That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples.  
• Elders, pastors, leaders, and families (holy, humble, harmonious, happy, heart-working).  
• Ministries and churches expansion worldwide.

#### IV. CCF Facilities

• Worship and Training Center  
• Prayer Mountain

#### V. Personal Concerns

• Deeper intimate relationship with God.  
• Righteous living.  
• Salvation of family and friends.

### MEMORY VERSE

#### PSALM 51:16-17

<sup>16</sup> For You do not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; You are not pleased with burnt offering. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.