

**[SERMON NOTES]**

**Faith After Failure**

*(Psalm 51)*

**Sermon Notes:**

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**[QUICK REVIEW]**

Looking at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

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**[MY STORY]**

We have all likely failed at something in life, but depending on what the situation is, what our personality happens to be, as well as our upbringing, sometimes we have different responses to these failures. ***What is your default response to failure?*** (i.e. anger, shame, guilt, apologies, denial, framing it as learning something new, etc.)

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**[DIGGING DEEPER]**

This week, we followed up the grievous sin of David with a deeper dive into what it looks like to practice ***confession***. This week, using Psalm 51, we learned 3 primary cornerstones of life-changing confession: 1) **Stating what we've done and what we deserve**, 2) **Declaring who God is and celebrating what he's given to us**, and 3) **Restoring relationships and**

**Changing the way we live.** Instead of going about our discussion guide as we normally do, we want to challenge you to do something a little different: **to write your own Psalm.**

This may seem overwhelming, but it doesn't need to be. A psalm is a simple prayer to God and there's no perfect way to do it. They can be psalms of confession (like Psalm 51), praise, thanksgiving, sorrow, or even anger. *That's the beauty of the Psalms!* **Take some time and read through some or all of the Psalms in the *Weekly Readings* section below. Then, choose a theme and write a psalm to God.** Psalms are prayers that *always* include your true emotions, usually address your current situation, and always bring the focus back to God. If you choose *confession*, it may be easiest to follow the 3-part pattern we learned from Psalm 51. As you feel led, you could even consider sharing it with trusted others. ***May God bless you as you write out your psalm below!***

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### [WEEKLY READINGS]

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (*1 Tim. 4:8-10,16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17*). As a church, we believe that! Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend's message.

*Confession: Psalm 51*

*Praise: Psalm 19*

*Lament/Sorrow: Psalm 88*

*Anger/Imprecation: Psalm 69*

*Thanksgiving: Psalm 107*