

Sermon Discussion Questions, August 1, 2010,
Discipleship in the Aftermath of Sin, pt.1, Dr. Rod MacIvaine
Psalm 51:1-9

1. How does the world define sin? How do you define sin?

2. Read Psalm 51:1-9. When did David write this psalm? Describe David's life and character before the Bathsheba incident? What lessons do you learn from these facts?

3. What does Old Testament law say about the sins of adultery and murder (Lev.20:10, 24:17)? Why do you think the law demands such a harsh punishment for these two sins? Why do you think the God of the universe decided to preserve this song in scripture?

4. Skim Psalm 51:1-7. What three things do you learn about the nature of sin? How does sin make you feel? Is it easy or hard to get rid of those feelings?

5. Do you think sin is best dealt with on an intellectual level or an emotional level? What role does the conscience play in regard to sin? How is the conscience shaped?

6. In verse 5, what is David confessing? Do you agree or disagree with David? Why or why not?

7. What is David actively seeking from God? What part(s) of God's nature is David requesting? How do you think our Heavenly Father views our sinful condition?

8. Reread verse 6-9. What should be the result(s) of receiving forgiveness? Think of a time when you have been crushed by personal sin? How did you experience God's forgiveness? What was the ultimate result of that experience? How are you encouraged by this Psalm and David's example?