

Prayer and Confession Worksheet

April 27th, 2007

What Christian traits do you think are the most difficult to cultivate because of pressure from your non-Christian friends? Have you ever felt distant from God? When have you felt closest to God?

Read Psalm 51

When did David write this poem? Where does it fit in the Old Testament?

What common experience does this psalm typify? (51:1-19) What was the psalm writer's attitude toward his sin? (51:3-5) What does the picture of forgiveness used in this poem reflect about the psalm writer's attitude? (51:2, 7, 9) What did the author of this psalm desire? (51:10-12) How would the psalm writer's own experience of God's forgiveness affect others? (51:13)

What did the psalm writer expect to be the outcome of God's forgiveness? (51:13-15) How does the prayer for Jerusalem serve as a fitting conclusion for this psalm? (51:18-19)

What does this poem tell us about God's character? How should we respond to our sin and God's forgiveness? How do you need to change your own attitude toward your sin and God's gift of forgiveness to you? If you have lost the joy of your salvation, what can you do to regain it again?

What can you do to cultivate a broken and contrite heart before God? What do you need to do about confessing sin?