

## Be quick to say I'm sorry

**Text:** Psalms 51:1-17 HCSB

- 1 For the choir director. A Davidic psalm, when Nathan the prophet came to him after he had gone to Bathsheba. Be gracious to me, God, according to Your faithful love; according to Your abundant compassion, blot out my rebellion.
- 2 Wash away my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I am conscious of my rebellion, and my sin is always before me.
- 4 Against You--You alone--I have sinned and done this evil in Your sight. So You are right when You pass sentence; You are blameless when You judge.
- 5 Indeed, I was guilty *when I was born*; I was sinful when my mother conceived me.
- 6 Surely You desire integrity in the inner self, and You teach me wisdom deep within.
- 7 Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones You have crushed rejoice.
- 9 Turn Your face away from my sins and blot out all my guilt.
- 10 God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- 11 Do not banish me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me.
- 12 Restore the joy of Your salvation to me, and give me a willing spirit.
- 13 Then I will teach the rebellious Your ways, and sinners will return to You.
- 14 Save me from the guilt of bloodshed, God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing of Your righteousness.
- 15 Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- 16 You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it; You are not pleased with a burnt offering.
- 17 The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit. God, You will not despise a broken and humbled heart.

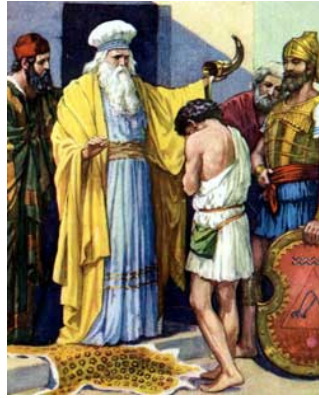
**Picture of shepherd David by Elizabeth Jane Gardner**



**Picture of Jesse presenting his sons to the prophet By J. James Tissot**



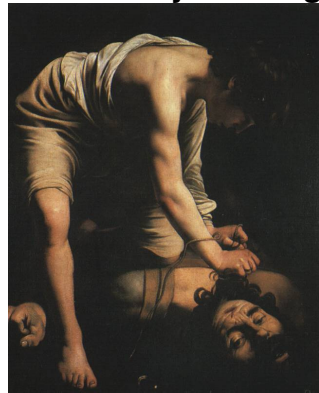
**Picture of David anointed by Samuel**



**Picture of David killing Goliath**



**Picture of David cutting off Goliath's head by Caravaggio**



**Picture of David and Saul by He Qi**



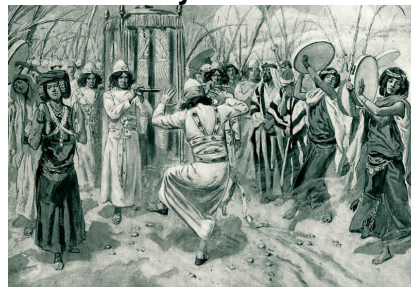
**Picture of David and Jonathan by He Qi**



**Picture of David entering Jerusalem in triumph by Raphael**



**Picture of David dancing before the ark by J. James Tissot**



**Picture of David seeing Bathseba by J. James Tissot**



**Picture of David being confronted by Nathan by J. James Tissot**



## How to be restored after you have sinned.

### **Recognize the fact that you need grace and lovingkindness. (v.1)**

1 Be gracious to me, God, according to Your faithful love; according to Your abundant compassion, blot out my rebellion.

### **Ask for forgiveness. (v.2)**

2 Wash away my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin.

### **Remorsefully acknowledge your sin. (v.3)**

3 For I am conscious of my rebellion, and my sin is always before me.

### **Declare an unconditional surrender. (v.4)**

4 Against You--You alone--I have sinned and done this evil in Your sight. So You are right when You pass sentence; You are blameless when You judge.

### **Express your innately sinful state and total inability to change on your own. (v.5)**

5 Indeed, I was guilty *when I was born*; I was sinful when my mother conceived me.

### **Commit yourself to the process of change. (vv.6-7) (Truth, wisdom, purification)**

6 Surely You desire integrity in the inner self, and You teach me wisdom deep within.

7 Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

### **Articulate your hope. (vv.8-12)**

**Renewed Joy (v.8)** 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones You have crushed rejoice.

**Imputed purity (v.9)** 9 Turn Your face away from my sins and blot out all my guilt.

**Practical purity (v.10)** 10 God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

### **Restored Relationship (v.11)**

11 Do not banish me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me.

### **Spiritual Empowerment (v.12)**

12 Restore the joy of Your salvation to me, and give me a willing spirit.

### **Dedicate yourself to giving God the glory. (vv.13-15)**

13 Then I will teach the rebellious Your ways, and sinners will return to You.

14 Save me from the guilt of bloodshed, God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing of Your righteousness.

15 Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise.

### **Don't fall into Cain's sin. Seek what pleases Him. (v.16-17)**

16 You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it; You are not pleased with a burnt offering.

17 The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit. God, You will not despise a broken and humbled heart.