

Day 4, The Walk, "Broken and Given" ~ Guilt



David . . . remembered as a giant-killer, poet, greatest King of Israel, and ancestor of Jesus . . . also known to be a betrayer, liar, adulterer, and murderer . . . one who sinned greatly and knew overwhelming guilt . . . and yet, ultimately one described as a man after God's own heart. (Acts 13:22)



*In a moment of great temptation David took a woman who was not his wife to be his own and had a child with her. In order to protect himself, he then sent her husband to the front of the battle lines, assuring his certain death.
Sin follows sin.*

Out of his great love for David, God sent Nathan, David's trusted adviser and friend, to confront him with his sin. That conversation brought David to a place of deep regret and sincere repentance. A broken man, he gave up his pride and humbly poured out his heart to God in the words we read in Psalm 51.

From Psalm 51 (NLT)

Cleanse 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 Hide your face from my sin
and blot out all my iniquity.



¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me

¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

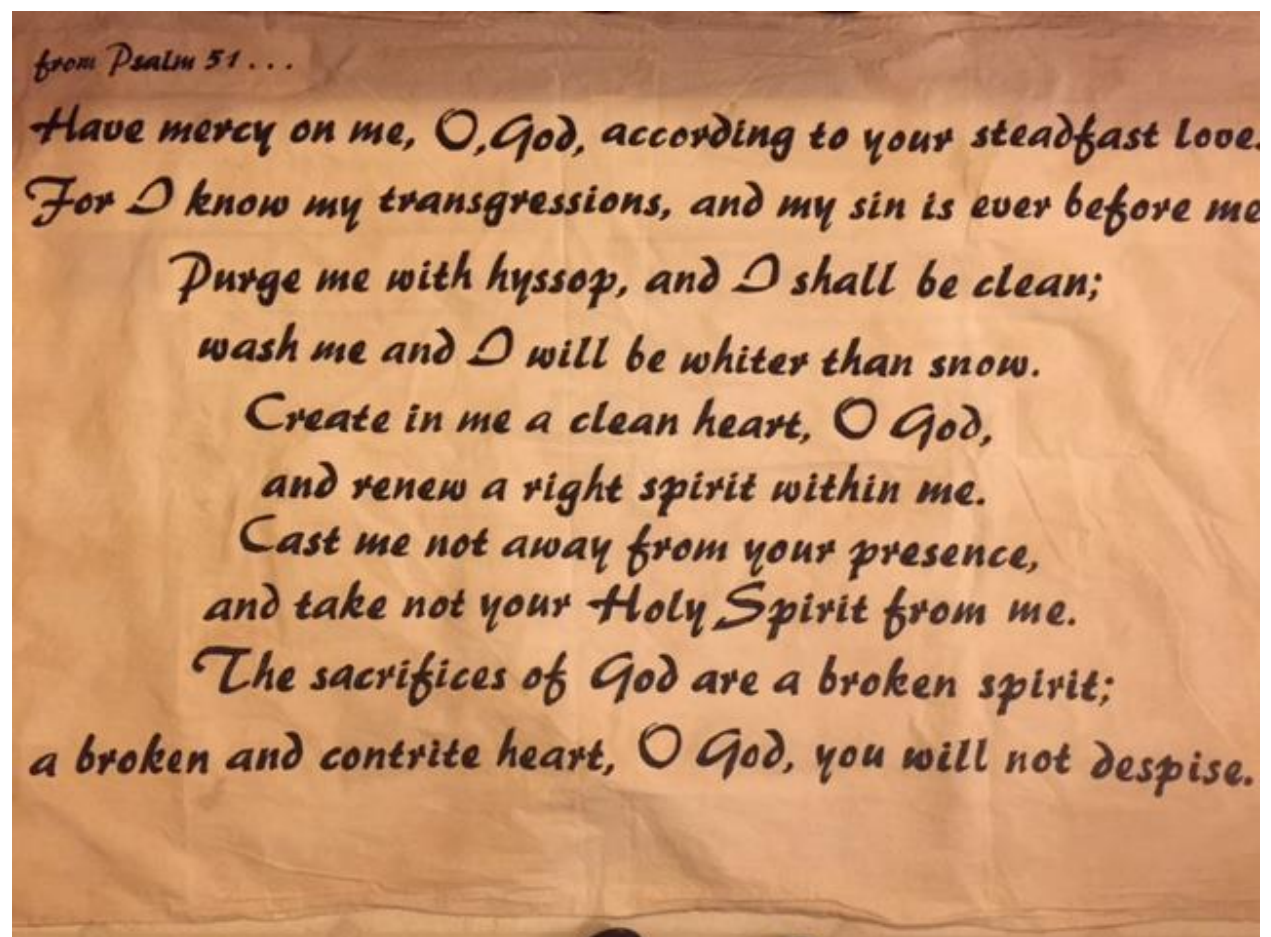
David gave God his guilt and his broken heart.

What David had done was wrong . . . very wrong, and he could have lived the rest of his days in the shadow of guilt and shame, but he didn't. Instead he went quickly to God in genuine sorrow and repentance and truly came to know the joy of his forgiveness.

We too are faced with choices every day – temptation comes our way in many forms. Our sin is wrong . . . very wrong but,

**No matter how great our sin,
God always welcomes us with open arms of mercy and grace.**

He never holds back from us the gift of his forgiveness.
We too can run to him in sorrow and repentance.



Prayer Response

What guilt do you bring with you today?

Hear these words from God,

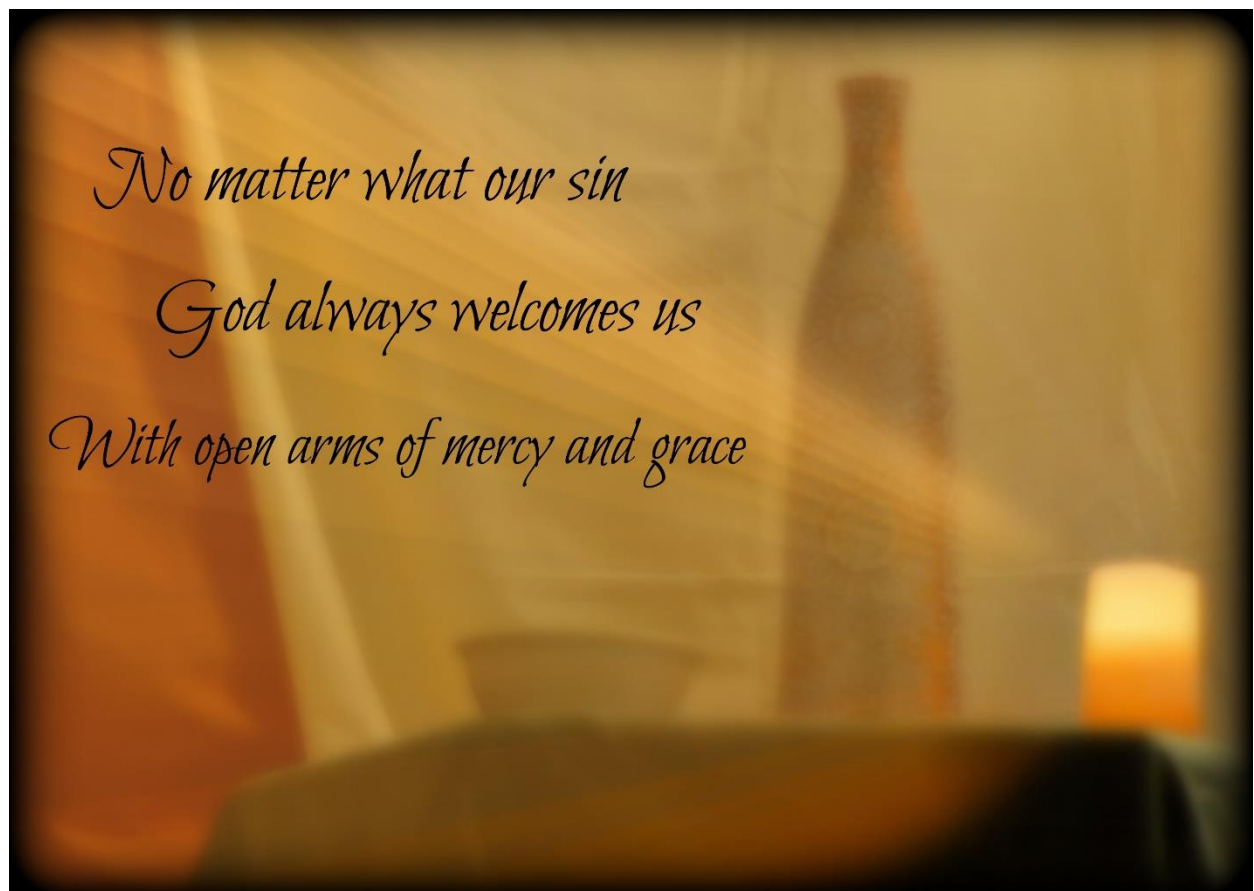
I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake;
and I will not remember your sins.

Isaiah 43:25

God does not want you to be weighed down with guilt or shame.

Write a word to name or represent your guilt on a small piece of paper that you can slip under the broken item that you have set out as a reminder of your own brokenness during these days leading to the cross.

Release your guilt as you slip it in with the broken pieces or under the broken item.



Please take a few moments to listen to the song “Mended” by Matthew West as you reflect on the forgiveness, healing, and hope God holds out to you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Otg-5p7qug>



Design of this prayer space by The Walk Team

Photography by Rachael Harascak