

FAMILY DEVOTION.. PRIME.. RESET

LESSON 1.. RECOGNIZE: CONFESS THAT SIN IS A BIG DEAL

Have you ever gotten an F in a class? Yeah, I mean a big, fat FAIL. Oftentimes, failing a class comes from failing to take it or the teacher very seriously. Doodling replaces listening, and note-passing replaces note-taking. Then one dreadful day, a test is passed around, and the information you chose to ignore now seems more important than you gave it credit for. You failed to take it seriously, and now you must face the consequences.

Read Psalm 51:1–10 together as a family. To say that King David had messed up would be a huge understatement. David had given into temptation and slept with another man’s wife. Then he had put that man on the frontline of the battlefield to ensure that he would be killed. In an instant, a righteous king, who was a man after God’s own heart, had become an adulterer and a murderer. In Psalm 51, David gave us a window into his great anguish over his sin. David understood the weight of what he had done. He knew of God’s righteousness, his justice, and his hatred of sin. God does not take sin lightly, and David did not take his need for confession lightly either.

We prefer to think of God’s grace, love, and forgiveness over His judgment and wrath. Those things are good because they are what we depend on as followers of Christ. Jesus has taken our sin and condemnation on Himself, and we rest in His righteousness. But while this is true, we need to meditate on all of God’s character to know Him fully. Through Scripture, God made it clear that He hates sin and doesn’t take it lightly when we choose the world’s satisfactions over obedience to His commands. Our understanding of God’s character and the seriousness of our sin should break our hearts and keep us on our knees, just like it happened with David. We must understand that God’s holiness accompanies His love. He loves us but cannot accept sin in our lives. We must see our sin as a grave offense to a holy God who abhors any sin. We cannot have a close relationship with God if we don’t take sin seriously.

CONNECTION QUESTIONS

1. What was David dealing with in the passage that you just read together?
2. In what areas do you fail to take sin very seriously? Why is this dangerous?
3. If you want to understand the weight of sin, what must you do?
4. Make a commitment as individuals and as a family to get to know God’s heart, mind, and ways more deeply. Pray for God to give you wisdom and understanding.