



## Summer Song

### Part 2 – Psalm 51 – A Whole Heart for the Father

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God, we don't often understand horrific acts like what took place this week. But we lift up those nine families in Charleston and even beyond that, the impact. Some daughters and sons celebrated Father's Day without their dad for the first time because of what took place in Charleston this past week. We just lift up those families to you; we just lift up this country to you. We pray for Jesus to continue to redeem the broken and comfort those that are hurting now. We put Charleston in our prayers. It's in your name we pray, Jesus.

So Father's Day for a lot of people... We carry different things. Some people have awesome daddies and they do it right and some people have never met their daddy. Some people have alcoholic daddies. Some people have abusive daddies. Some people have in and out daddies. Woodland Hills is usually upbeat and I'm wrestling because I didn't grow up with a spiritual dad, per say, and there was some bitterness towards my dad so Father's Day was kind of this tension for me. I want you to know that if that is you, that's okay; we're glad you're here.

Today's message isn't really just to daddies; it's for all of us. We started a new series last week and it's a Psalms series, *Summer Song*. We're walking through the book of Psalms. As a matter of fact, we planned this all the way back in October or November. I told Ted that a Psalm that has really been on my heart has been Psalms 51. I told him I would love to do that Psalm. When we picked this date, we didn't think about the fact that it was Father's Day. It's just the way God works. I pray that everyone is encouraged. The title of this message out of Psalms 51 is *A Whole Heart For The Father*. We're talking about our heavenly Father here, not our earthly father, although I think it will strongly encourage our earthly fathers and our earthly mothers.

To understand the concept of Psalms 51, we have to open our Bibles to 2 Samuel 11 and 12. That's where we get the context of Psalms 51. I'm going to paraphrase these two chapters. In 2 Samuel 11: 1, it says it was springtime. In springtime, the kings go off to war to continually protect the walls of Israel. At this time, King David was King of Israel. It says Kings go off to war, except David sent Joab and Uriah and his mighty warriors to go. It says that David stayed home in Verse 1. He decided to chill. You see, men, we get in trouble when we get lazy and bored.

David decided not to go and be with his army and continually lead them. Instead, he decided to stay home and be lazy, be boring. And so in his laziness and in his boredom, he decides one day to walk out onto his little porch that kind of oversees Jerusalem. So he walks out onto his porch and he notices a woman, a naked woman (also known as ancient day pornography) bathing.

He looks at this woman and gets turned on. He likes her, so he tells his servant to go get that naked woman that's taking a bath down there; "I want to sleep with her."

The servant is saying "Whoa, whoa, whoa, King David, with all due respect, that's Bathsheba. Bathsheba is Uriah's wife. You remember Uriah? He's the dude that knocked out 300 dudes. He's one of your strongest military men; the dude that's basically keeping these walls fortified. You know Uriah; the dude that would jack you up if you guys went toe to toe? David, I don't know if you want to go mess with his wife."

David, ignoring the counsel of his servant, said "Go get her."

The servant said "Alright; I don't want my head cut off; whatever you say, King." He summons Bathsheba and brings her up to the palace.

They sleep together. A week later, there is some news. "Hey, King David, Bathsheba is pregnant."

Here is a man that if we had an epitaph... If we could find his tombstone, the one line, the tweet that goes across the headstone, if he had a headstone, would say "A man after God's own heart." So many times, we take characters in scripture and we just see all these good things they do which really just teaches us moralism. It's like look how good they did this or that and just follow their behavior which isn't the gospel. The only good thing in any of these characters is Jesus. So we have to be careful because here is David, a man after God's own heart, that's about to walk into some deep, deep sin. Yet we still remember him as a man after God's own heart. That gives me a lot of hope. That should give you a lot of hope.

So he sleeps with her and then gets the knock on the door. Bathsheba is pregnant and now he's thinking *Man, all my people think I have a heart for God. I've led them well, I've walked in purity, and now I've blown it. What am I going to do? I'm going to bury my sin.* Here's the problem though. The deeper we bury the sin, the stronger the roots. The deeper we bury the seed of sin in our life, the stronger the roots. So watch how strong these roots are about to get in David's life.

He's thinking *I've got an idea. I'm going to call Uriah off the front lines of fighting and get him to come home, sleep with Bathsheba, act like he's the one that got her pregnant and I'll get out of this whole mess.* The problem is Uriah is filled with so much integrity that when he comes back in 2 Samuel 11, he refuses to go to his house. King David says "Uriah, you've been fighting hard, go and lay with your wife."

Uriah says "King David, how dare I? My men are out there fighting. I wouldn't dare go sleep with my wife." He lies on the palace steps and sleeps on the steps that night.

Now David is frantic. *What am I going to do? My plan is not working. I'm trying to cover up my sin and these roots are getting deeper and deeper. How am I going to take care of this? I know. I'm going to get my boy hammered drunk tomorrow and he'll be so tipsy that then he will go sleep with Bathsheba and we'll cover this whole thing up.*

The next night, he does get Uriah tipsy, but even in his tipsiness, Uriah is still holding onto his integrity, refusing to go sleep with Bathsheba. He lies on the palace steps for a second night. Now David's plan is not going as planned.

David's thinking *How am I going to cover this up? Here's the only thing I can do.* He writes a letter to Joab, the commander in charge, and says "I want you to put Uriah where the fighting is most fierce." That way, he will surely die. He folds up the letter and hands it to Uriah, the very person he has just given a death sentence to. Could you imagine Uriah showing up to Joab saying "Here, the king has a delivery for you"? Uriah is so filled with integrity that he doesn't read the letter. He gives it to Joab and, in front of Uriah, he opens it up. Uriah is standing right in front of him as he folds the letter back up. Joab is thinking *This is one of our best warriors and the king is telling me to kill him? What is going on?*

Obedient to his king, he follows his command and sure enough, Uriah dies. David is like *Now I can take Bathsheba as my wife. I covered it all up.* What he doesn't realize is these roots are getting stronger and stronger with the sin in his life. He thinks he can actually sweep his sin under the rug and he wasn't going to be found out and everything is good. *Everybody actually thinks I did a good deed. Now she's a widow and I took her in as my wife. Look, I'm still a great king.* Wrong.

There's a knock on the door. Nathan the prophet shows up at the door. "David, what are you thinking? You don't think God sees you trying to bury your sin? You don't think God saw all that happened? You don't think God saw the second you started struggling in ancient porn as you were looking at Bathsheba taking a bath? You don't think he knew from that second? You should have curbed that desire." Nathan rebukes him and he says "Do you know what's going to happen now, David? God's going to forgive you, but there are consequences to your sin. As a matter of fact, Bathsheba is going to give birth, but that child is going to be taken from you."

David begins to mourn and put on sackcloth and ashes and cry and plead with the Lord. Sure enough, that child is taken from him; gone to be with the Lord. Then we see, in his brokenness, why we call David a man after God's own heart. It wasn't because he defeated Goliath. It wasn't because he didn't kill Saul when Saul was trying to kill him and instead cut off a piece of his cloak in the cave. We call David a man after God's own heart because of Psalms 51. It is so powerful and has been so transformative in my own life. So now he just feels the seed of rebuke right after he'd been rebuked by Nathan. Listen to how he responds in Psalms 51.

**1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.**

David is recognizing something so important for all of us to recognize. We can't clean ourselves up. He's asking God to do the cleaning. He realizes he can't clean himself. There's not enough Dial. There's not enough Dove. There's not enough soap in this world that will clean you up. No matter how hard we scrub, there is not enough soap in the world to clean ourselves up. David is recognizing that only God can clean him up, that only God can clean his heart, that only God can do that work.

Stop trying to clean yourself up. That's what God desires. He says "I'll clean you up. I'm the one that does the cleaning." That tells us that he's not in love with a future version of you. He's in love with you today. Do you hear that, daddies. He's in love with you today. He's not waiting until you get your act together and curb the addiction; he's in love with you today and he cleans you up from the inside out. When we just continually try to clean ourselves from the outside in, it angers him, as we will find out later in this Psalm. So David quickly realizes who the one is that's going to clean his heart, the one who gives him the new heart, the one that does that process. He realized when he tried to clean himself up and hide it, it didn't go too well from him, right?

***3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.***

You realize here that David is tired of trying to act like he has no sin. He's saying to God "God? I know that my addictions are ever before me." "I know that my porn is ever before me." "I know that my lying to my husband or lying to my wife or lying to my family is ever before me." "I know that my bitterness towards my dad that was never around is ever before me." "I know that my co-dependency is ever before me." "I know that my adultery is ever before me." You fill in the blank. David is recognizing that he can't hide. He knows that his sin is ever before him.

My sin is ever before God. There is no day I wake up and say I don't need Jesus today; I'm good. No, that's why Lamentations 3: 22 and 23 says His mercies are new every morning. I need them every morning. I didn't just get saved and now I'm good. I need to be reminded of the gospel daily because my sin, your sin, our sin is ever before us. That's what David is saying here. He saying "God, I'm going to recognize that." And what else David recognizes when he tried to justify it, sweep it under the rug, and plant that seed deep so nobody saw it was that it only grew stronger roots.

**The only thing conceivably worse than our sin is justifying it.** Do you realize that? "Well I'm not as bad as so and so. I'm not struggling with what he's struggling with." Do you understand that when you walk in justification, as David is recognizing here, it doesn't lead you to repentance because if you justify your sin, there's no brokenness over it. We'll see at the end of this Psalm that's exactly what God delights in. He delights in a broken and contrite heart; not justification. "I'm better than that person." "At least I'm not a drunk like that person." "At least I'm not smoking like that person." "At least I'm not cheating on my wife like that person." No, but you're non-present in your home or whatever the case may be. Compare yourself to God's standard and realize how deeply you need his grace. That's what David is seeing here.

***5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.*** He's going all the way back to the internal sin. He's recognizing that all the way back, there's sin in his life. ***6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.*** He's realizing that this sin problem goes way back.

So you might be struggling with an external sin today. That's just a manifestation of something internal. Let me give you an example. Some of you may have had an absent father or an abusive father, so that

has caused you to be more co-dependent on males now. So you move from one male relationship to another or whatever the case may be. So there's this deep, internal sin that you are not grabbing at the root that manifests itself externally in different ways. The external sin is not the problem even though it needs to be dealt with as well. We have to get to the internal process and that's what David is saying.

To properly deal with sin and the weeds of sin in our lives, they must be pulled out from the root. You can try to weed eat. We weed eat at camp all the time and the weeds are gone, but they are back in two to three days because the sin is not being properly dealt with at the root.

I used to live in Kansas City for four years and I don't have a green thumb. Some of my boys are phenomenal at landscaping. I hate it. I live in a house where I don't have to mow a yard; I don't have to pull weeds. I don't have to do anything and it's awesome. One summer, as I was leaving Kansas City, I noticed that there were some significant weeds that were coming up. They were small weeds and I know that if I would have dealt with the weeds, I could have just gotten down... They were just little weeds and I know if I would have dealt with the weeds before I left for camp for the summer, I could have easily just bent over, picked a couple of them out and it would have been good. But I was an idiot and I said I'll deal with those when I get back in August. I left in May. There was nobody looking after my house while I was gone.

I come back and these things are like on HGH. I'm telling you they had thick roots almost like wood. They wove themselves all the way through my chain-link fence. They went left, right, north, south, every which direction. They went through the ground. I know this because I had to take a pickaxe to them. Then they went through my back yard and got my other chain-link fence on the back side of my yard. It took me two full weekends to take a pickaxe, get at the root of these things, and pull these things up. It destroyed my yard. I was literally pulling holes through my yard. If I didn't pull the root, it was going to keep doing this. I didn't take care of it early on when I could have taken care of it.

In that moment, God was like "Adam, that's your sin; these internal sins that you ignore, that you entertain." David didn't just end up in a bed with Bathsheba. When he walked outside, it was a little sin. He was just checking a lady out. Instead of pulling that little thought out at the root, "I'm going to play with this for a little while. I'm going to let it grow. I'm going to see how it manifests itself." Lust turned to adultery turned to conspiring turned to murder. Now we are talking about a bulldozer to take care of this thing. That's why it's so important for us to recognize the small internal sins that can manifest themselves in such greater ways in our life.

Here's the hope. Despite whatever internal sin... For example, in my life growing up, I carried a lot of bitterness towards my dad. That was a small, internal sin. Externally, was the sin of always looking for that approval in coaches and in men in different things and just the approval of men. I had to first deal with the internal sin of the bitterness and then I could start dealing with the external of trying to get man's approval. That's how it manifested.

David goes on to say ***Z Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean...***

Do any of you in here even know what hyssop is? It makes absolutely no sense that he would say this. By the way, hyssop is a plant. It looks a lot like this. You can't find hyssop in the Ozarks. But it looks a lot like this. When a hyssop plant blooms, it has like a lavender or white flower. So David is saying "cleanse me with hyssop." By the way, hyssop plants don't smell great. They don't have a soapy substance. They wouldn't clean you. So for him to say "cleanse me with hyssop" makes no sense. Why in the world did he say it?

I'll tell you why he said it. Back in Exodus, there was this command of all the Israelites to take their hyssop plants and bundle them up together and make them like paint brushes. There was this plague that came across Israel and God said "I want you to take the blood of the lamb and take your hyssop plants and cover your doorpost in the blood of the lamb." So they take this hyssop plant and they start covering their doorpost so the angel of death would pass over their door.

But not only is David looking back when he is saying "cleanse me with hyssop," but theologians believe that he is also looking forward to the ultimate Passover lamb which is Jesus Christ and his blood will cover over a multitude of sin. So when David is crying out, "cleanse me with hyssop and I will be clean," he is saying "cleanse me with the blood of Jesus." How amazing does that make our God? David knows exactly what he's talking about when he says "cleanse me with hyssop." "Cleanse me with the blood of the Lamb that will take our sins away forever." He's crying out. He's saying that same blood that covered over the Israelites in Egypt will cleanse him with the ultimate blood of Jesus that's coming. So when he's crying out "purge me with hyssop," he's really saying "cleanse me with the blood of Jesus."

Then he goes on to say *...wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.*

You guys know it doesn't snow a lot in the Ozarks, however, the last two winters... My friends the Lemleys moved here from Texas. I told them it never snows here and the first two winters they spent here it's been like blizzard after blizzard. David says, in that Psalm, wash me and I will be whiter than snow. So the day before this picture was taken, the day before the blizzard hit, there are goose droppings all around and there was trash and it was muddy and wet. It just looked nasty. Then the next day, I went down with my little man on the four wheeler and looked around at all the snow all around. That's what that Psalm is talking about. But the beautiful thing about it is when it says wash me and I will be whiter than snow, not only does he wash you whiter than snow, but there's nothing underneath that snow anymore either. Psalm 103: 12 says "as far as the east is from the west, so he has removed our transgressions from us." So that's what the blood has done. It's amazing.

I don't know if you are wrestling with guilt today or shame today, but I'm telling you he washes you white as snow. You don't clean yourself up; he washes you white as snow.

***8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. 9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.***

What a powerful prayer to pray for your family. What a powerful prayer to hide in your heart. What a powerful prayer I continually run back to. "God, create in me a pure heart. Renew a steadfast spirit

within me. God, give me a teachable heart, give me a pure heart. Stir my heart's affections for you and not always sports and not always these desires. God, create in me a pure heart as David says and renew a right 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.***

We see the word *joy* twice, both in Verse 8 and in Verse 12. "Let me hear joy..." "Restore to me the joy..." That tells me your joy and your holiness are not at war with each other. As a matter of fact, David is realizing that holiness actually brings joy. He's saying when you're not carrying around that load of sin and you're living in transparency and you're being authentic and you're confessing your sin like he's doing in Psalms 51, there is joy there. There's joy because you're not worrying about being caught. You're not worrying about somebody finding the seed that you buried deep. There's no joy in that. There's no joy in living like that. No one finds joy in living like that. So your joy and your holiness actually go hand in hand, when you're able to live free lives in transparency. That's what David is saying here.

***13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. 15 Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. 17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.***

So one of my friends always tells me the best witness is a clear conscience; not a perfect person. There's no perfect Christian. If you know one, introduce me to him, because I would like to meet Jesus today as well. So there are no perfect Christians and when I teach transparency... David is saying "I'm transparent now."

I work with teenagers nearly 340 days a year. Do you know the quickest way to break down walls? I just tell them the things I struggle with and the things I have struggled with. Then they vomit all the things they struggle with and they tell me everything. It's amazing when you are just real and transparent. Dads, we don't have to have it altogether. As a matter of fact, you don't have it altogether. That's why Jesus came because he knew you wouldn't. So you don't have to put on this persona like you're some super hero that you're not.

I have a pastor friend down in Dallas and he said the most powerful thing his dad ever did was own it. What he is talking about is when his dad blew it, when anger rose, or when he was snippy with mom, or he lost his temper, or he didn't follow through with a promise, he would get down on his knees, look right at his kid, and say "I'm sorry; I blew it." Or he would apologize to his mother right in front of the kids and be like "Sweetie, I blew it and I'm sorry." He said that the most powerful thing he ever saw his dad do is live in transparency and not act like he's always got all the answers and he's always right... whatever the case may be. He said the most powerful thing his dad ever did was walk in transparency and when he blew it, it owned it.

When dads don't own it when they blow it, they think they've always got to be perfect and so kids grow up with this performance mentality which is not the gospel. They think that when they blow it, they can't say anything because dad never says anything when he blows it. By the way, Dads, I blow it a lot and I have to come to my wife and say "I blew it" or come to my three year old and say "Aiden, I'm sorry I blew it. I shouldn't have been impatient with your mommy." I'm even starting to communicate that with him now.

My wife can be so fired up because I forgot something or I said I was going to do something and I didn't do it and if I quickly, gently walk into a posture of humility and say "Stephanie, I'm sorry; it completely slipped my mind. I know that meant a lot to you and you had expectations. That is my fault and I own it. I'm sorry," Instantly, her countenance is one of forgiveness. Be able to own it instead of trying to bury it and cover it up and act like everything is all good when it's not all good. If you had it all together, there would be no reason for Jesus to come. But the fact is you don't and neither do I and that's exactly why he needed to come and why he did come and why his blood is sufficient to cover up all that. The problem is when we try to act like we can't own it and we have it all together. Then he goes on to say something that really blows our mind.

***15 Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.***

So he's saying God doesn't delight in your efforts to clean yourself up. He doesn't delight in you trying to do, do, do. The reality is that it's been done, done, done on the cross. So when you try to operate in moralism to clean yourself up, God doesn't delight in that. David is saying what he delights in is a broken heart for him. Would you be courageous enough to pray this Woodland Hills? Oh God, would you break my heart by the very things that break yours. God, would you break my heart by the sin I'm living in that's breaking your heart.

Isaiah 64: 6 says that all of our righteous deeds are like polluted garments. I won't go into what polluted garment he is referring to there. Our works, our behavior modification, our trying to modify our behavior disgusts God. All that's doing is putting a Band-Aid on a gunshot wound when what we need is a heart transformation from a heart surgeon known as Jesus. That broken heart gets us to that operating table where Jesus can begin operating on our heart and do a work that we can't in behavior modification.

Michael Houdmann said this: *"When we agree with God about how bad our sin is, we take the first step toward reconciliation with him. As long as we try to justify, excuse, or rationalize the evil over our own hearts, we never find our way back into God's presence. Repentance is the doorway to freedom."*

Check out this video clip: *You... look at your eyes. Look at them. Speckled. Colorful. Each one unique. I created every one of them. I created everything: the universe and you. I gave you your personality. I made you pure, complex. And every day, I give you life. I love you. But something happened. You cheated on me. You didn't trust me. You sinned. You cut yourself off from me. And although you are still alive, you were slowly dying.*

*So you looked for other things to fill the void, but nothing works. It just kills you faster and separates us more and more. What are you searching for? I don't want you to die. I created you not to be destroyed, but to know me.*

*So I became one of you, a fragile creation. I was tempted, but I never sinned. I came to save you... so many sins and they have a cost: someone has to die... You or me. So I took on your sin and traded in my life for yours and I died in your place because I love you. Then I rose from the dead. I am the way, the truth, and the life... I am Jesus. I'm not here to condemn you, but I came to bring you back to life. Rely on me; I will forgive you and give you eternal life. I love you and I did all of this to have a relationship with you. Will you follow me?*

Michael Houdmann said that Jesus is the doorway to repentance. So many times in scriptures we see that Jesus is referred to as the door and that repentance through that door leads to freedom. Do you realize if I never go through this door of repentance, I will never see the work that he's done for me; I'll never understand it? If I just stay over here in the dark and away from all of you and any transparency and any understanding what Jesus has literally done for me... If I walk through this...

John 14: 6 says ***"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*** Here's the reality. In some form or fashion, all of us carry a type of father wound. Some of us have phenomenal fathers and some of us haven't. So there's this father wound and the reality is that father wound is there because we are looking for our earthly fathers to play a role that only our heavenly Father can. And our earthly father was ever intended to fill that role. So when we understand that Christ alone, not our earthly father, is the only one capable of satisfying the deepest longing of our soul...

We are going to walk in this bitterness and failed expectation, but Christ meets those expectations and then goes above and beyond those expectations. When you walk through the door of repentance, dad, you don't have to have it all together and you don't have to act like you do. You can be freed from your pornography addiction today. You can be free from your emotional abuse. You can be free from whatever is holding you back that you are deeply planting with seeds. You can be free from your perfectionism. You can be free from all those things.

The beautiful thing is when you are free and you walk through that doorway of repentance... Repentance means Jesus comes in behind you and deadbolts that sucker. There's no going back. Even if you wanted to go back, you're not going to go back to it because Jesus is going to be your strength. Jesus' strength is where you are weak says 2 Corinthians 12:9. And no matter how hard you want to go back to that addiction or whatever it may be, Jesus says let's keep walking in repentance. Let's keep walking in humility. Let's keep walking in transparency.

The greatest gift you dads could give to your family on Father's Day is just a transparent heart; just a humble, teachable heart. I'm up here and I'm telling you that I don't have it all together. My family will know that. Not a single dad in here has it all together. And walking in that authentic humility and transparency... I realize no matter how much I point my little Aiden to scripture, I still need other people rallying around me. I still need community rallying around me.

I work at Kanakuk Kamps in the summer. Right now, I'm out at K2. I rally these 22, 23 year old men. We hit the weight room floor and we pray for campers and we pray for their hearts. We get on our knees before the Lord and ask God to do a work that only God can do, a work that I can't do as a director and that none of these men can do. As I'm standing there doing it, my little three year old decides he wants to pray with them. I can't do this alone and I'm not supposed to do it alone.

Deuteronomy says it takes a village. Daddies, you don't have to do this alone. That's what this church body is for. That's what the church of Christ is for. That's what this is about. That's what this church is for. That's what community is here for. That's what your wife is here for; you guys are a team. You are not at odds with each other; you're doing this together. I can't raise this little man alone; I need other men in his life. I need examples in my life. So Dad, you don't have to be a superhero. Let me give you freedom in that. Christ lived the life we all should have lived, died the death we all deserve to die, and that gives you freedom to walk in that grace. He gives you freedom to walk in that blood. That's the beauty of the gospel. So happy Father's Day.

I just want families to be healthy and transparent and honest. I know there are a lot of hurting families. How do I know? I get a lot of emails and I get a lot of phone calls. The dad is the patriarch. The dad is the head of the household. That doesn't mean he has to be perfect. It just means he has to be honest and open and willing to walk through that door.

God, I can't thank you enough for Psalms like Psalms 51. It gives us hope and courage that we too can be men and women with a whole heart for God, despite our sin. It is you that established that heart of David. It's you that established that forgiveness in David's life, not him cleaning himself up. God, I just pray for all the dads in here and all the dads that didn't make it and all the dads that watch online. God, I pray they be free from any struggles or addictions that they may be in and walk through that door of repentance, leading their families, setting examples for their families in humility and transparency and authenticity.

God, thank you for being the ultimate Father on Father's Day. Despite those of us that may have grown up without daddies or didn't have a daddy around or whatever the case may be, we have the ultimate father in you and you say you will never leave us nor forsake us. Praise you for that, God.

God, once again, I just pray for the families that are fatherless this day because of Charleston. We just lift that situation up to you again and just pray for a deep heart of repentance for the killer. We just lift today up to you. May it bless families and may we honor you in all we say and do.

It's in the matchless, mighty, pure and powerful name of Jesus I pray and all God's people agreed and said... Amen.