



Heartbeats along the way: The God-cleansed Heart

Psalm 51:10. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

In this season of Lent, we are reminded of the great love God has shown to us through the life and suffering of Jesus, God's son. Psalm 51 is a psalm of David after he committed a grievous sin. His words are sincere and absolutely heartfelt.

After the plea for mercy and his confession of guilt, David acknowledges God's righteousness and authority to judge him. David asks for a purging and cleansing as he would understand the steps for purification, and makes a final plea that his sins would be forgotten.

Then these words: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."

May this prayer of David's be our prayer as we journey to the Spring Garden Campus. We have the blessing of knowing Jesus Christ, and Christ's love and willingness to forgive a sincere heart.

As we journey to our new physical house of worship, let our prayer always be - for ourselves, and for one another - that God daily creates in us clean hearts filled with the Holy Spirit that we may be witnesses to all around of God's great love for all God's children.

The psalm in the King James Version is printed on the back. I've done this for the richness of the language.

"Merciful and Glorious God, as we travel toward the new place You are preparing for us, cleanse our hearts that we may be faithful servants of your Divine Will. As we pass these days of Lenten reflection and confession, restore us and make us fully ready to serve you and our neighbor with all our hearts. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, Amen."

~ cl reynolds

Psalm 51. A Psalm of David.

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. 5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. 6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. 9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. 12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. 13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. 14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. 15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise. 16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. 18 Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem. 19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.