

# God Desires a Broken and Contrite Heart

Psalm 51:16-17

## Discussion Questions

- 1) What is the backstory of Psalm 51? Why is it important that we know this?
- 2) Why do you think God had to confront David with his sin, through the prophet Nathan?
- 3) What is the difference between being broken-hearted over the loss of a friend or a relationship and the broken heart that David is talking about in this Psalm?
- 4) What does the word 'contrite' mean? How does this relate to Isaiah 57:15?
- 5) God desires a broken and contrite heart from us. What might stop us from offering this to Him? With regards to this, how might we apply Psalm 51:16?
- 6) Read Isaiah 29:13. In a confrontation with the Pharisees in Mark 7:6-7, Jesus quotes this verse. What do we know about the Pharisees? How does this verse relate to Psalm 51:16? What is the warning for us today as Christians?
- 7) Read 2 Chronicles 7:14 and James 4:10. What is the promise for those who humble themselves before God? What might this look like?
- 8) In what ways did Jesus humble himself? How did God lift Him up?
- 9) If we see in us the desire to cover things up, to honor God with our lips whilst our heart remains our own, then we can start by getting honest about the true condition of our hearts. Spend some time in prayer about this.