



# Dangerous Prayers

WEEK 3 - CLEANSE ME

## SERIES BIG IDEA

God's dream for you is to be a fully engaged Christ-follower, to be on adventure with Jesus that is daring, life-changing, full of purpose. If you're ready for something more, start praying dangerous prayers.

## MESSAGE BIG IDEA

Message Big Idea: Lord, cleanse me of my sin so I can grow closer to you.

## SCRIPTURE

### Psalm 51

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. 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. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise. You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise. May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the walls of Jerusalem. Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous, in burnt offerings offered whole; then bulls will be offered on your altar.*

### Luke 18:10-14

*"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' 'But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' 'I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'"*

## ICEBREAKER

What was your most embarrassing moment last week?

## BIBLE DISCUSSION

1. Read Psalm 51 and Luke 18:10-14 out loud. What struck you about these passages?
2. These are some examples of famous prayers in the Bible: how do they compare to the prayers we typically pray?

## LIFE APPLICATION

3. Have you ever confessed sin to someone else? What was that experience like?
4. What are the biggest things holding us back from praying a dangerous prayer?
5. While our sin does not alter God's love for us, it does impact our intimacy with God. Does this ring true in your experience? If so, how? If not, why not?

## CHALLENGE

6. Complete the 3C Spiritual Growth Plan online at [communitychristian.org/3C](http://communitychristian.org/3C)
7. Pick a way you can incorporate prayer this week – whether it's by praying out loud, alone in your room, by journaling, or even with a friend. Pick a way and pray a dangerous prayer "your will be done," "search me," "cleanse me," or some other prayer that stretches and challenges you.