

# *A Responsive Reading*

*Psalm 51:1-17*

## *Remembering Who We Are and Who We Are Called to Be:*

One: Have mercy on me, God, according to your faithful love!

**Many: Wipe away my wrongdoings according to your great compassion.**

One: Wash me completely clean of my guilt;

**Many: Purify me from my sin!**

One: Because I know my wrongdoings,

**Many: My sin is always right in front of me.**

One: I've sinned against you – you alone.

**Many: I've committed evil in your sight.**

One: That's why you are justified when you render your verdict,

**Many: Completely correct when you issue your judgment.**

One: Yes, I was born in guilt, in sin, from the moment my mother conceived me.

## *Remembering God's Grace:*

**Many: And yes, you want truth in the most hidden places;**

One: You teach me wisdom in the most secret space.

**Many: Purify me with hyssop and I will be clean;**

One: Wash me and I will be whiter than snow.

**Many: Let me hear joy and celebration again;**

One: Let the bones you crushed rejoice once more.

**Many: Hide your face from my sins;**

One: Wipe away all my guilty deeds!

**Many: Create a clean heart for me, God;**

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*Psalm 51:1-17*

One: Put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me!

**Many: Please don't throw me out of your presence;**

One: Please don't take your holy spirit away from me.

**Many: Return the joy of your salvation to me,**

One: And sustain me with a willing spirit.

*Going With Thanksgiving and Peace:*

**Many: Then I will teach wrongdoers your ways,**

One: And sinners will come back to you.

**Many: Deliver me from violence, God,**

One: God of my salvation!

**Many: So that my tongue can sing of your righteousness.**

One: Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will proclaim your praise.

**Many: You don't want sacrifices.**

One: If I gave an entirely burned offering,

**Many: You wouldn't be pleased.**

One: A broken spirit is my sacrifice, God.

**Many: You won't despise a heart, God, that is broken and crushed.**