

**DSC Community Group**  
**Sermon Summary, 01/22/2012**

Title: "The Blessedness of Forgiveness"  
Series: "Pour Out Your Heart to Him"

Text: Psalm 32  
Preacher: Ryan Kelly

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**1. The Freeness of Final Forgiveness (1-2)**

- These verses are a summary or conclusion of the entire psalm.
- Forgiveness assumes: 1) The reality of sin: Jer. 17:9; Rom. 3:10-12; Ps. 51:5; David uses 3 different words for sin in order to show it's pervasiveness: transgression = go against; sin = fall short; iniquity = twisted/crooked; 2) That sin is against God, since only He can forgive it: Ps. 51:4; 3) That there's nothing we can do to dig our way out of it: Jer. 13:23; Ps. 130:3-4.
- Blessed means true happiness, freeing joy, extraordinary exuberance: Matt 16:26. John Calvin: "David here teaches us that the happiness of men consists only in the forgiveness of sins, for nothing can be more terrible than to have God for our enemy; nor can he be gracious to us in any other way than by pardoning our transgressions."

**2. The Sorrow of Sin and Silence (3-4)**

- We all know and suppress our guilt: John 3:19-20
- We're all professionals at denying our sin, and at seeing the sin of others: "Have you ever noticed how you think that the things you're naturally pretty good at are very important, and you tend to notice with such clarity when others are generally bad at that thing. Conversely, we tend to minimize those things that are ongoing struggles for us."
- God is good to bring us misery for our sin and sin repression.

**3. The Key of Confident Confession (5)**

- David uses three different words for confession, and uses the same three words again for sin - calling it what it is. He also uses three different words for forgiveness.
- The irony of confession: if you cover your sin he will judge it. If you uncover your sin, he will cover it.
- The Bible has many ways of speaking of salvation: Ps. 51:2; Ps. 103:12; Isa. 1:18; Isa. 43:25; Mic. 7:19.

**4. The Source of this Staggering Salvation**

- How can God not "count" our sins against us and remain just. Rom. 3:23-38; Rom. 4:2-8.
- Do you know the blessedness of forgiveness? Seek him while he may be found! Isa. 55:6-7.

**5. The Results of Real Reconciliation (6-11)**

**Prayer and Protection (6-7)**

**A Prescribed Path (8-9)**

- The Christian life is a cycle of guilt, grace, and gratitude. Christianity is not a new system of credit and demerits. You better not trust in the consistency of your confessions, because you've never had a day when you confessed all your sins. You better not trust in the fervency of your confessions, because you can never muster up enough remorse. Christian Growth is a low growth: the holier we get the less it feels like it. The closer we are to God the more heinous our sin feels to us.

**Peaceful Pleasure and Praise (10-11)**

- Lk. 7; Mal. 4:2; Eccl. 9:7; John 8:36

**Sample Questions**

- Ryan mentioned that we are usually easy on our selves where we struggle the most, and hardest on others where we are generally successful against sin. How is this true for you?
- How does David's use of language show his view of sin, God, forgiveness, etc.?
- Is this a Psalm for unbelievers, or also for believers? How so?
- According to the NT, how can God not "count" our sins against us, and what does that mean?