**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. January 7, 2018**

**Freedom Of Forgiveness**

Psalm 51

**Key Truth:** Failure to accept we have been fully forgiven by God dishonors the sacrifice of Jesus. Knowing God has fully forgiven you brings true freedom?

1. Because of the character of God forgiveness is offered and

 available.

 A. Love, grace, and mercy are the hallmarks of God’s

 personhood.

2. Taking responsibility for our sin is key to receiving

 forgiveness from God.

 A. Ultimately sin is an offense and assault against God.

 B. We must remove any excuses and stop blaming others for

 our sinful actions.

3. David pleas for forgiveness:

 A. Spiritual healing and restoration is what he desires.

 1. Sin doesn’t affect our eternal salvation but it does affect

 our communal relationship with God.

 2. God cannot use a person caught up in unrepentant sin.

4. The results of forgiveness:

 A. Restoration of joy.

 B. Wisdom for others from our failures.

 1. God never waste our pain or failures.

 C. Freedom from guilt.

 D. A testimony of praise.

 E. A grace filled heart for the lost.

**Taking It Beyond the Walls:** Look to the cross, where God most fully displayed His character, and see a Savior that loved us enough to die for us.

**Food For Thought**

For the Week of January 7, 2018

What, to you, feels different between asking for forgiveness and forgiving someone else?

Which is harder for you? Why?

Read 1 John 1:8-9: What are some of the comforting aspects to these two verses? Why?

Do these verses mean that God withholds His forgiveness for each sin until we ask for it? If not, what do they mean?

Has it ever been hard for you to believe you are truly forgiven? Why?

Why is forgiving yourself and moving on from sin important in your relationship with God?

How does knowing God has fully forgiven you bring you freedom?