Songs of the Summer – Week 5

“After the Bad”

Psalms 51

1. The story behind the song:

*For the choir director: A Psalm of David. Regarding the time Nathan the prophet came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.*

1. The person to ask for forgiveness is God.

*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 that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.* ***Psalm 51:1-4***

1. The road back:
* Be honest about yourself.

*Surely, I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.* ***Psalm 51:5-6***

* Ask for forgiveness.

*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.* ***Psalm 51:7-9***

* Ask for restoration.

*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.* ***Psalm 51:9-12***

1. What to do next:
* Share God’s forgiveness with others.

*Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.****Psalm 51:13***

* Give God the credit.

*Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. O Lord open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.* ***Psalm 51:14-15***

* Commit to change.

*You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.* ***Psalm 51:16-17***