Restoring Joy
Psalm 51:1-12
1 John 1:1-4

**Restore** - to bring back to or put back into a former or original state

1 John 1:1-4
1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;
2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)
3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.
4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

1. **Knowledge**
2. **Fellowship**
3. **Joy**

Psalms 16:11
11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Galatians 5:22-23
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

I) **Cause of Its Removal** v.1-2

A. Disobedience in Gods People (Sin)
B. Departure from Gods Presence (Separation)

Isaiah 59:1-2
Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:
2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

1 John 1:5-6
5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.
6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
II) **Conditions of Its Restoration** v. 3, 16-17

A. Contrition

**Psalms 51:16-17**

16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.
17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

*Contrite* – to collapse, to crush

B. Confession

**Psalms 51:3**

3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

**1 John 1:9**

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

III) **Conclusion of Its Return** v.13-15

A. Passion for the Fallen

**Psalms 51:13**

13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

B. Praise for the Father

**Psalms 51:14-15**

14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.
15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

**Life Group Questions**

1. Describe your idea of what real Joy is and what it would feel like?

2. Why does it seem that so many Christians are content with living a life without “fullness” of Joy?

3. I John 1 teaches that Joy is found through fellowship with God and His People, do you think it is possible to have one without the other and still experience the Joy God wants us to have? (Explain)

4. David remained “outside” of the joy of the Lord while his sin remained unconfessed possibly up to a year, why do you think Christians remain in this state when it can be so painful and miserable?

5. What steps can we take to “remain” in God’s presence in order to experience the Joy of the Lord in its fullest form?