



PRAYER

PRAISE | LISTEN | ASK

TALK WITH GOD

CREATE IN ME, O GOD

FOR CHILDREN'S VOICES

(WITH OPTIONAL STRINGS, SOLO WOODWIND INSTRUMENT, AND CONGREGATION)

CREDITS

Adapted from Psalm 51:10
by Edwin M. Willmington

Arranged by Edwin M. Willmington
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LISTEN NOW!



“GOD, CREATE A PURE HEART IN ME. GIVE ME A NEW SPIRIT THAT IS FAITHFUL TO YOU. DON'T SEND ME AWAY FROM YOU. DON'T TAKE YOUR HOLY SPIRIT AWAY FROM ME. GIVE ME BACK THE JOY THAT COMES FROM BEING SAVED BY YOU. GIVE ME A SPIRIT THAT OBEYS YOU SO THAT I WILL KEEP GOING.”

PSALM 51:10-12 (NIRV)



SONG CONTEXT

King David was a great king in the Old Testament, and God loved him greatly. However, David, like all of us, was susceptible to sin. In 2 Samuel 11-12, there is an account of David making a serious mistake. He initially tried to cover up his sin, but God saw it and sent the prophet Nathan to reveal it to him. David was deeply repentant. Even though it was a sad situation, the good news is that David quickly confessed his sin to God. By confessing his sin, he restored his relationship with God. The wonderful lesson is that when we sin, we can confess our sin to God, and He will forgive us. That's the very good news of the Gospel!

One beautiful outcome of David's confession is that we have his words in Psalm 51. Those words form the basis of the song "Create in Me, O God". Like David's confession centuries ago, this song can be our prayer of confession today. As we sing this prayer, we ask God to give us a clean heart and to renew a right spirit within us. As God did for David, He will forgive us as well. He promised forgiveness in many scriptures, including 1 John 1:9, which affirms God's pardon for our sins.

When we pray, we speak directly to God. In confessional prayer, we acknowledge that only God can forgive our sins. In some worship traditions, a designated time is set aside for confession. Scripture, readings, and prayer may provide language for confession. At times, silence allows each person to pray quietly. "Create in Me, O God", uses King David's words as a sung prayer of confession. The song is structured so that a leader or small group can sing the leader part, and the entire congregation can respond in an echo style without prior rehearsal. This provides a flexible format that can be adjusted to each church's worship style. (Please see the worship service sample plan in the Prayer magazine or on the website, where "Create in Me, O God" may be used alongside other scriptures and songs to provide a model for confession in a worship service.)

PRAYER

Dear Lord, thank You for preserving King David's words of confession so we can use them to confess our sins. Thank You not only for hearing the words we speak from our hearts and minds, but also for offering Your forgiveness as a wonderful gift of grace. Amen.