### **Treasure Hunt**

- How does Psalm 31 illustrate the application of Psalm 16:8?
- What other people in the Bible quote Psalm 31, and what can we learn from their example?
- What kind of opposition is David facing in 31:2-4? How about 31:9-18?
- What is unusual about the final request in Psalm 31?
- Where does Psalm 32 fit in 2 Samuel? How about Psalm 51?
- Contrast "Blessed" in 32:1 with the same word in Psalms 1 and 2.
- How did David try to hide his sin, and what was the result?
- Where did he finally hide it?
- Why does David tell other people about his experience in vv. 6-11?
- Why would a "godly man" need to pray for God for forgiveness?

#### Structure of Psalm 31 Personal **Public** Experience Encouragement Physically Slandered & Shut In Reproached 9-13, 2-4, 19-22, Petition Petition 1a, Confidence Confidence "them that "In thee ... trust in 14-15a, do I put my thee" Confidence trust" "I trusted in thee" 1b, 23-24, Petition 5-8, "Deliver **Exhortation** Confidence me" 15b-18, "I trust in Petition the LORD"

Psa 16:8 I have set the LORD always before me: because *he is* at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

# Helpful References on Psalm 31

3 for thy name's sake

Jos 7:9 For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear *of it*, and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name?

4 Pull me out of the net

2Sa 17:13 Moreover, if he be gotten into a city, then shall all Israel bring ropes to that city, and we will draw it into the river, until there be not one small stone found there.

5 Into thy hand I commit my spirit
Luk 23:46 And when Jesus had cried
with a loud voice, he said, Father, into
thy hands I commend my spirit: and
having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

6 I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the LORD.

Jon 2:8 They that observe **lying vanities** forsake their own mercy. 9 But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay *that* that I have vowed. Salvation *is* of the LORD.

13 For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side

Jer 20:10 For I heard the defaming of many, fear on every side. (cf. 6:25; 20:3; 46:5; 49:29)

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# Setting of Psalms 32 and 51

2 Samuel 11, David sins

2 Sam 12:7 Nathan says to David, "Thou art the man."

2 Sam 12:13a David says to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

2 Sam 12:13b Nathan says to David, "The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die."

Psa 32:3 When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. 4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer.

Psa 51:1 A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

Psalm 32

# Structure of Psalm 32

Psalm 32, Blessedness of the Penitent

1-5, David's Experience

1-2a, The Joy of Forgiveness ...
2b, ... and of Honest Confession
3-4, David's Painful Silence
5a, David's Confession
5b, David's Forgiveness

6-11, David's Exhortation

6, The Prayer of the Godly
7, The Lord surrounds David
8-9, Don't be stubborn
10, God's surrounding mercy
11, The Praise of the Righteous

David speaks about God

David speaks *to* God

David speaks about God

# Helpful References on Psalm 32

1 Blessed *is he whose* transgression *is* forgiven, *whose* sin *is* covered. 2 Blessed *is* the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity.

Psa 1:1 **Blessed** *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Psa 2:12 **Blessed** *are* all they that put their trust in him.

David's promise in Psalm 51

Psa 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. 13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

6 For this shall every one that is **godly** [חסיד] Strong 2623, from אחסד Strong 2617 "covenant love"] pray unto thee...

Lev 26:14 But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; 15 And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, but that ye break my covenant: 16 I also will do this unto you; ... [all manner of terrible things are described.] ... 44 And yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy them utterly, and to break my covenant with them: for I am the LORD their God. 45 But I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the heathen, that I might be their God: I am the LORD.