

A GRATEFUL FAMILY

Psalm 32

Introduction: the happiness of forgiveness...

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. (Psalm 32:1-2)

- **The personal crisis: refusal to repent from sin** – “When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.” (vv. 3-4)

¶ *Note: when we hide in sin...*

- **We are drained of life** – “My bones wasted away through my groaning all day long...my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.”
- **God does not lift His finger** – “For day and night your hand was heavy upon me...”

Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness. (Heb. 12:10)

The bridge from the burden of guilt to the blessing of forgiveness is confession...

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD...” (v. 5a)

- **The cause for thanksgiving: God’s gracious deliverance** – “...and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found.” (vv. 5b-6)

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

A growing gratitude: the blessings of God’s forgiveness...

- **God’s protection** – “...surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him. You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.” (vv. 6b-7)
- **God’s instruction** – “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.” (vv. 8-9)
- **God’s love** – “Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD’s unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in Him.” (v. 10)

A grateful heart leads to joy and praise...

Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart! (v. 11)