The Joy of Forgiveness
Psalm 32:1-5

Introduction:
A. David describes a “blessed” or happy man (vv. 1-2).
   1. Describes him in 3 ways: Sins forgiven, covered, not imputed.
   2. Quoted by Paul (Rom. 4:6-8)
B. David uses his personal experiences to illustrate his point:

Discussion:
I. He Had Experienced the Misery of Guilt (vv. 3-4).
   A. One has to either ignorant or hardened or both to be comfortable with guilt.
      1. Possible for one to be ignorant and comfortable (1 Tim. 1:13; Acts 23:1)
      2. Possible for one to have a seared conscience (1 Tim. 4:2)
   B. One with knowledge and a tender conscience is miserable with guilt.
      2. Knows and cares about the ultimate wages of sin (Rom. 6:23).
      3. Knows and cares about the effect his sin must have on God (cf. Eph. 4:30; Psa. 95:10-11)
         a. The God who made him and has blessed.
         c. The Lord who came and died for him.
      4. Knows and cares about the effect his sin must have others that love him.

II. He Had Experienced the Joy of Forgiveness (v. 5).
   A. Enjoyed forgiveness only after he acknowledged and confessed (silent vs acknowledge).
   B. Forgiveness from God is always conditional.
      1. One is not forgiven simply because he quits practicing a sin.
      2. One cannot be forgiving while continuing in sin (Rom. 6:1; Heb. 10:26-29).
      3. An alien sinner must repent and be baptized (Acts 2:36-38).
      5. One must be willing to forgive others to be forgiven (Matt. 6:14-15).
   C. Forgiveness from others is also conditional (Luke 17:3-4).
      1. God forgives us — if (1 John 1:9).
      2. We must forgive others - if.

Conclusion:
A. Others have experienced the joy of forgiveness (Acts 8:36; 16:24)
B. Do you want to enjoy the blessedness of forgiveness?
C. Then, meet the conditions of forgiveness today.