



Recitation Script



Psalm 51 in Nine Languages

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OVERVIEW

Key Points

Multi-lingual recitation of Psalm 51:1-12 with nine reciters bringing together a large range of ethnic groups.

Recitation Delivery Notes

The feeling is that of one person reciting Psalm 51, the psalm of confession, and we hear echoes of it around the world. Figure out early how you are going to make everyone audible to the audience. There will undoubtedly be a range of vocal power in the group. Practices need to have everyone represented so that reciters are familiar with their cues (which are frequently in a language that they do not know). Pay attention to the notes regarding the “Create in me a clean heart O God” section. There should be a sequential layering of voices that overlap beginning at the word “heart.”

Video



Key Quotes

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.” (Psalm 51:1 NIV)

<https://byheart.org/recitation-videos/psalm-51-in-nine-languages/>

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” (Psalm 51:10 NIV)

Psalm 51 in Nine Languages

RECITER	SPOKEN TEXT	ENGLISH TRANSLATION
All Language Reciters together in English	Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love	Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love
Tamil	தேவனே, உமது கிருபையின்படி எனக்கு இரங்கும்,	Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love
Croatian	Smiluj mi se, Bože, po milosrđu svome, po velikom smilovanju	Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love
French	Toi dont le cœur est si grand, Efface mes désobéissances	according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions
Spanish	Lávame más y más de mi maldad	and cleanse me from my sin
French	et purifie-moi de ma faute.	and cleanse me from my sin
Tamil	என் பாவமற என்னைச் சுத்திகரியும்.	and cleanse me from my sin
German	und reinige mich von meiner Sünde	and cleanse me from my sin
Chinese (Cantonese)	潔除我的罪！	and cleanse me from my sin
Arabic (Syrian)	وَمِنْ خَطِيئَتِي طَهِّرْنِي.	and cleanse me from my sin
Croatian	od grijeha me mojeg očisti!	and cleanse me from my sin
Swahili	Unitakase dhambi zangu	and cleanse me from my sin
Spanish	Y límpiame de mi pecado.	and cleanse me from my sin
Arabic (Syrian)	لَأَنِّي عَارِفٌ بِمَعَاصِيٍّ، وَخَطِيئَتِي أَمَامِي دَائِمًا.	For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
English	Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;	Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
German	Du bist im Recht mit deinem Urteil	so you are right in your verdict
Chinese (Cantonese)	判斷的時候顯為清白	and justified when you judge.
Swahili	Tazama, nikazaliwa nikiwa na hatia. Mama yangu akanichukua mimba nikiwa na dhambi	Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me
Spanish	He aquí, tú amas la verdad en lo íntimo, Y en lo secreto me has hecho comprender sabiduría.	yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

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Tamil	நீர் என்னை ஈசோப்பினால் சுத்திகரியும், அப்பொழுது நான் சுத்தமாவேன்; என்னைக் கழுவியருளும், அப்பொழுது நான் உறைந்த மழையிலும் வெண்மையாவேன்.	Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Swahili	Unifanye kusikia furaha na shangwe, Mifupa uliyoiponda ifurahi.	Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
Croatian	Objavi mi radost i veselje, nek' se obraduju kosti satrvene!	Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
French	Détourné ton regard de mes fautes ,Efface tous mes torts.	Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
English	Create in me a pure heart, O God,	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
Arabic (Syrian)	Create in me a pure heart, O God, <i>(begin after previous reciter says "...heart")</i>	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
Croatian	Create in me a pure heart, O God, <i>(begin after previous reciter says "...heart")</i>	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
Tamil	Create in me a pure heart, O God, <i>(begin after previous reciter says "...heart")</i>	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
German	Create in me a pure heart, O God, <i>(begin after previous reciter says "...heart")</i>	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
French	Create in me a pure heart, O God, <i>(begin after previous reciter says "...heart")</i>	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
Chinese (Cantonese)	Create in me a pure heart, O God, <i>(begin after previous reciter says "...heart")</i>	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
Spanish	Create in me a pure heart, O God, <i>(begin after previous reciter says "...heart")</i>	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
Swahili	Create in me a pure heart, O God, <i>(begin after previous reciter says "...heart")</i>	Create in me a pure heart, O God,
All Languages	And renew a steadfast spirit within me	And renew a steadfast spirit within me
German	Schick mich nicht weg aus deiner Nähe und nimm deinen Heiligen Geist nicht von mir!	Do not cast me from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from me
Spanish	Vuélveme el gozo de tu salvación,	Restore to me the joy of your salvation

RECITER	SPOKEN TEXT	ENGLISH TRANSLATION
Arabic (Syrian)	وَبِرُوحٍ مُّتَذَبِّبَةٍ اَعْظُدُنْ	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
Croatian	i učvrsti me duhom spremnim!	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
Tamil	உற்சாகமான ஆவி என்னைத் தாங்கும்படி செய்யும்.	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
German	Hilf mir, indem du mich bereit machst, dir gerne zu gehorchen.	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
French	Renouvelle et affermis mon esprit.	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
Chinese (Cantonese)	賜我樂意的靈扶持我	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
Spanish	Y espíritu noble me sustente.	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
Swahili	Unitegemeze kwa roho ya upendo.	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
English	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.	And grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
English	Please join us in reciting Psalm 51	Please join us in reciting Psalm 51

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