

## Truth's Hard to Swallow

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(The following is an excerpt from a devotional  
book Barb is writing)

*Parched lips strain when the well runs dry,  
Truth's hard to swallow.  
Endless demands dry the reservoir's flow,  
Truth's hard to swallow.  
Desire flows turbulent through a sieve,  
Truth's hard to swallow.  
Empty sieve of insatiable thirst,  
Truth's hard to swallow.  
Awakened to the thirst for mercy  
Truth's hard to swallow.  
Plead for mercy and wash me clean  
Truth's hard to swallow.  
Sustain and cleanse these broken lips  
Truth's hard to swallow*

### **Scripture**

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. ... Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place."

(Psalm 51: 1-3, 6)

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## **Message**

Truth ... yours, mine or God's? In life, endless demands, desire, pride, power, and discontent can all lead to sin that denies truth. The challenging thing about seeking God's truth amidst worldly life is that it reveals the true intent of one's heart.

That is why it can be so hard to swallow.

The truth is; I like life my way. I desire and get the things of this world, yet long for more. Figuratively speaking, my thirst is not quenched by the things, the waters of this world. The worldly waters flow turbulent as if being poured through a sieve, gone in an instant, and all I want is more. For my thirst to be quenched I need to be awakened to the reality of my transgressions. I need a thirst for God's truth in my inner being, for my sin runs deep. Even when I cry to God for mercy, it is still hard to swallow. Yet, surrender to God's truth I must. For in surrendering comes cleansing, restoration ... saving grace.

## **Reflection**

What about God's truth is hard for you to swallow?

## **Prayer**

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me." Amen

(Psalm 51:10-12)