

Only the Forgiven are Truly Happy



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- Psalm 32:5

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Imagine you're in the basement on a rainy day. Mom says, "No ball playing in the house!" But she's upstairs and you have a brand-new basketball. So, you start bouncing it on the ground; tossing it in the air. It's fun. Suddenly the ball gets away from you and... Oh, No! It breaks a lamp. Knowing your mom will be upset, you hide the lamp and say nothing. Days go by and you're feeling guilty. Does she know? What will happen when she finds out? You feel horrible. Finally, you go to your mom, tell her what you've done, and apologize. To your surprise, mom says, "I forgive you." What a relief! All your guilt is gone. You feel lighter than air.

This story is like the one in Psalm 32. In verses 1-2, David says the truly happy person is the one whom God has forgiven. But often we try to hide our sin. When we do that, guilt weighs us down (verses 3-4). But if we confess our sin to God, he promises to forgive us. He won't punish us or count our sin against us in any way.

- Have you ever tried to hide something you did wrong? What was it like? Did you feel guilty?
- Think about a time when someone forgave you. What did it feel like? Did it make you happy?
- Have you ever confessed your sin and asked God to forgive you? Are you trusting in Jesus for salvation?
- If so, how do you know God has really forgiven you? (*Hint: read Psalm 32:5*)