

Not Ashamed

1) Shame

a) Related to a Community and its Values

Shame functions only within a community, and is based specifically on what a community rejects.

b) Related to how much you Values the Community

One's "sense" (feeling) of shame is directly related to how much you value your place in that community.

2) Shame and the Gospel

a) I am not ashamed of the Gospel.

b) My primary identity is among the Called of Jesus Christ

c) My People/Place is the Community of the Saints.

3) Rejecting Gospel Shames

a) Rejecting False Shames

1. Your Gospel is Parochial (not for everyone)
2. Your Gospel is Novel
3. Your Gospel is Common

Mark 8:34-38; Heb 2:8b-9, 11, 18

Praxis

1. How is shame used to expose your greatest allegiance? Given our mixed allegiances at times, consider the grace in Hebrews 2:12, 11:16.
2. What shames does the world cast on the Gospel and those who believe and promote it? How might you answer each of these?
3. How does the example of Jesus in Hebrews 12:1-3 help you deal with shame in the Gospel?
4. "The righteousness of God" - look for every instance of "righteousness" in Romans 4... What does this teach about the connection between righteousness and faith?
5. The world says "shame on you" because the Gospel can't be seen / proven. How are you to answer? How does that answer direct life with God?