

There is More

Week 5, From Shame to Dignity

GUILT = DOING
SHAME = BEING

Prevailing Biblical Symbolism:
Nakedness = Shame
To be clothed = Honor/Dignity

⁶The woman (Eve) was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. ⁷At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. ⁸When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees. ⁹Then the LORD God called to the man, 'Where are you?' ¹⁰He replied, 'I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked.' (Genesis 3:6-10) NLT

*We mask our shame.
*We hide because of our shame.

There is More! - Moving to Dignity

...he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne." (Hebrews 12:2)

"And the LORD God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife."
(Genesis 3:21)

"Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him." (Luke 15:22)

*God wants to help you lay aside your shame and to receive the new robe that he has for you! You are a highly favored child of God!

* Today's scripture is from New Living Translation

How to receive forgiveness from God:

- 1) Admit you, like everyone else, need a new life in Jesus.
- 2) Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- 3) Receive new life from God by trusting in Jesus as your Savior & Lord.

You can do that now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In your name, Amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text "FAITH" to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.

Further Reflection:

- Why would it be important to distinguish between guilt and shame?
- Are there other stories or images that come to your mind in the scriptures that use nakedness and clothedness to symbolize shame and dignity?
- Read Genesis 3 again: What other thoughts and observations bubble up in your reading as it relates to shame/dignity?
- What are some of the ways that we 'cope' with our shame? (Ex: masking or hiding)
- Read one of the passion accounts in the gospels: In what other ways did Jesus endure shame on Good Friday?
- Are there any messages received from shame in your life that have become the 'controlling narrative' for you?
- Spend some time in gratefulness that Jesus has provided a way to receive freedom from shame! You are a highly favored child of God!

ANNOUNCING:

Dr. Gary Chapman LIVE in person
5 Love Languages Marriage Conference
Whether you've been married for six months or sixty years, join us!
Saturday, September 10, 2022
Rock Island Campus
9AM-4PM
Registration is open! Head to the link below to get your tickets.
5lovelanguages.com/conferences/marriage-conference

Rev. Josh Howard - August 21, 2022
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