



THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 22, 2023

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

February 12

Our Next Gospel Meeting

Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 1 on Zoom

Friday at 1 on Zoom

Times of Service

Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

First Friday of Month

Singing

February 3, 7:30

Address and Contact

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Christ

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UNASHAMED BELIEVERS

Sin and shame go hand in hand. Shame is the inward mental and emotional pain a person experiences when he messes up. He hurts when he knows he did not do what he should have done, or he did do what he knows he should not have done. Sin is a shameful thing that never occurs as a singular event. Others are always involved, either directly or indirectly. One sins with another, on behalf of another, at the urging of another, and, perhaps most frequently, against another. When one sins against another, the resulting distrust, dishonor, and major disappointment adds to the heartache.

In the spring of my senior year in high school, on the first afternoon of track practice, Harry, John, and I were jogging the cross-country course. Part of the course paralleled a busy highway. There were still patches of snow on the ground and we decided to toss some snowballs down that bank onto the road. One snowball happened to contain a small stone. That snowball happened to hit the windshield of a pickup truck. The driver was able to maintain control and no other vehicles happened to be nearby. Of course, we were caught. The driver happened to be a merciful and forgiving individual. I have no doubt, at the time, we felt more relief at not being punished than we were ashamed at what we had done. Since then, I have periodically told this story, not to emphasize how we escaped punishment, but rather to show the shamefulness of wrong.

What often gets missed is the fact that every sin is against God. When Potiphar's wife sought to seduce Joseph, he reminded her of the faith and trust her husband had placed in him, and then asked, "*How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?*" (Genesis 39:9) David eventually came to the realization that in fulfilling his carnal desires he had sinned against God. His shame is recorded in 1 Samuel 12 and Psalm 51. When David fully realized what he had done, he exclaimed, "*I have sinned against the LORD.*" (2 Samuel 12:13) God, through Nathan, showed David there is no more serious a matter than sinning against the Lord. David is asked, *Why have you*

**Members Needing Our
Prayers**

Marcus Lake, Mary
Weatherholt, Joyce Bolton,
Julie Patton, Rick Small,
Benny Poynter, Richard and
Janet Brundige, Rhonda Boyd,
Cindy Bradbury, Paul
Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Marc Nations, Janice Parsons,
Veronica Bowman, Charles
Bishop, Brian Mason, Allison
Walker, Mark Nickles,
Dwayne Harrod, William
Roberts, Paul and Marrian
Lyda, Dana and her children,
Shane (a relative of Cindi),
Ron Harmon

To Our Guests

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despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? (Verse 9) In verse 10 God says you have despised me. Finally, Nathan tells David that he has utterly scorned the Lord. (Verse 14) David’s shame is clearly evident in Psalm 51 where he says my sin is ever before me.

Consider Peter after Jesus was arrested. He was sure he would never deny his Lord, yet did three times. When the rooster crowed and Jesus looked at him, I can only imagine the depth of shame Peter felt as he went to weep bitterly (Luke 22:54-62) Saul of Tarsus also must have been ashamed beyond measure as he sat blinded, neither eating nor drinking, wondering what God had planned for him.

No one has to remain in a shameful condition before God because Jesus shed His blood, sacrificing Himself and fulfilling the will of His Father. Consider well these two scriptures: *Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. (Psalm 119:5-6)*

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved,^[c] a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15) John Thompson

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
	Marcus Lake	
	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

