



THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 28, 2024

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

February 11, 2024

Our Next Gospel Meeting

March 3-8, 2024

Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 1:15 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 2

Address and Contact

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BODY-SHAMING JESUS

Your body is imperfect, flawed, scarred, too _____ (something inadequate) and, therefore so are you! This is body-shaming: the act of humiliating someone because of some aspect of his/her body. Most accept that this is harmful and needs to stop, but it still happens a lot to Jesus without apology.

The prophecy of Isaiah 53:3-5 says Jesus would be “despised and rejected by men” and is still true today. Jesus, the Head of the body (Colossians 1:18), is shamed as his name is used as a mindless interjection and curse. Among unbelievers, everything about Jesus is shamed—his historicity, teaching, miracles, death, resurrection, reign, authority, and return. He is shamed and blasphemed without hesitation.

Jesus warned that if he was despised and rejected by men, his followers would be, too. How does the body endure shaming? It knows, “The wise shall inherit glory, but shame shall be the legacy of fools” (Proverbs 3:35). Unbelievers, “whose glory is their shame—who set their minds on earthly things” (Philippians 3:19), shame Christ and his body but inherit shame themselves. His body rejoices that it is “worthy to suffer shame for his name” (Acts 5:41) knowing that, in the end, “whoever believes on him will not be put to shame.” (Romans 9:35)

Sadly, it is not only unbelievers who shame the body of Christ. Members of the body know that their mission is the “edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12), but some are often tempted to tear it down and shame it. It begins by members not respecting and “not holding fast to the Head...”

Members Needing Our Prayers

Jill Harrison, Joyce Bolton, Rick Small, Benny and Arlena Poynter, Janett Brundige, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Barbara Conley, Maurice Baker, Jeff Padgett, John Thompson, Georgia Patton, Glenda Miller, Alyse Nash, Patty Hill, Janice Parsons, Mark Nickles, Paul and Marrian Lyda

To Our Guests

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, or our website to watch or listen to sermons.

(Colossians 1:19). Actions that ignore and degrade the authority and direction of the Head dishonor the Head himself.

Tolerating immorality shames the body of Christ and gives cause for blaspheming him. (1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Titus 2:5). False teaching brings blasphemy to the way of truth (2 Peter 2:1-3). The words and actions of members of the body of Christ must not invite shaming of Christ and his body.

Believers are often tempted to shame other body members with harsh words, condemnation, disunity, refusal to forgive, lack of love, selfishness, prejudice, devaluing various gifts and positions in the body, dishonoring poor brothers and sisters, etc. If believers aren't treating others as those for whom Christ died, they are both shaming their brothers and shaming Christ and his grace.

Believers are "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2). Jesus despised and bore the shame of the cross. It's past time for body-shaming Jesus to stop.

David Diestelkamp

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

