

SERMON REFLECTIONS

The Call of the Gospel: “Shamed” But Unashamed

Romans 1:1-17 | 1 January 2023 | Rev Dr Aaron Tay

Reflection Questions

(I have set many questions this week – you can either choose to concentrate on a few questions, or have one or two persons share from each question.)

1. The Book of Romans is one of the most important books of the New Testament, if not the Bible, because it teaches us clearly about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - i. What do you think the Gospel means, biblically?**
 - ii. What does the Gospel mean to you, experientially?**

2. God’s 1st calling – we are to Believe, but more than that, to Belong to Jesus Christ.
 - i. What is the difference between Believing and Belonging to Jesus Christ? (What does it mean to believe and what does it mean to belong?)**
 - ii. Do you belong to Jesus Christ? If so, when did you start belonging to Christ and what led you to that moment?**

3. God’s 2nd calling – we are to Behave, but more than that, to Be Holy (Whole).
 - a. Wholeness – God’s Spirit and Word filling every aspect of our lives: body, soul (mind, emotions, will) and spirit

Our Vision

To be disciples of Jesus Christ

Our Mission

We exist to make disciples who love God, love one another and love the lost



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Spirit	Seek only after God (God should be higher than all other pursuits)
Mind	Godly ideas / thoughts / wisdom
Emotions	Godly emotions / feelings
Will	Godly motives
Body	Godly purposes

- b. To be holy as God is holy – holiness is more than morality, it is modeling after Christ Himself
 - i. **How can you be holy (whole) in your spirit, mind, emotions, will and body? If we say a godly mind is to be filled with godly thoughts, give examples of godly thoughts.**
 - ii. **How can one model after Christ? How can we become holy as God is holy?**
4. God's 3rd calling – To belong, but more than that, to be Bold for Christ (to proclaim Christ).
Share an experience when you had proclaimed Christ – how did you feel? Describe what happened.
5. "Shamed" when you respond to the call of God to belong to Christ.
- i. **Have you ever been "shamed" because you became / you are a Christian? What happened?**
 - ii. **What must be the pre-believer be convicted about so that he/she would not be ashamed of the gospel?**
6. "Shamed" when you desire to live a holy life.
- i. **Have you ever been "shamed" (others made you feel uncomfortable) because you desire to live a holy life for God? What happened?**

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- ii. **Have you experienced pressure at your workplace or social settings where you feel obliged to conform to ungodly/unbiblical behaviours and mindsets? If possible, share some of these pressures.**

7. “Shamed” for sharing the Gospel.
Have you ever been “shamed” because you were sharing the gospel? What happened?

8. “¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God – ...”
God has called some to be set apart for the gospel. What would you feel/do if you or someone very close to you believe that you/he/she has been called by God to full-time Christian ministry? Would you be willing to respond / give your blessing? If not, what are the obstacles preventing you?

Blessed New Year to you, my sisters and brothers.

Shalom

Pastor Aaron Tay

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