

No Shame
Joel 2:12-13
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show how there is no shame, zero shame, in humbling oneself to repent of sins or to ask for the prayers of the church.

Intro:

1. Too many times churches and people in general have developed the idea that asking for prayers and praying for forgiveness is something that they will never do.
2. Too many who could benefit from such prayers have sat idle because of pride and misconceptions.
- 3.

- I. God Wants (Demands) all to repent
 1. God commands ALL to repent (**Acts 17:30**)
 2. All must come to repentance (**2 Pt 3:9**)
 3. Repentance was preached to ALL (**Lk 24:46-47**)
 4. Christ commanded repentance (**Rev 2:5,16**)

- II. Why should all repent?
 1. Because, sin condemns (**Rom 6:23**)
 2. Because of the coming judgment (**Acts 17:30-31; Lk 13:1-5**)
 3. Because the grace of God is only available to those who do what is required and repentance of sin is required (**Rom 6:1-11**)
 4. Because of God's goodness (**Rom 2:4**)

III. Misconceptions

1. Publicly asking for prayers for forgiveness of sins is a sign of weakness – **FALSE**
 - a. The Christian is to humble himself to God – those who are not humble rarely repent of sins because they see no wrong doing in their actions or life (**2 Sam 12:13**)
 - b. Godly sorrow leads to forgiveness (**2 Cor 7:10**)
2. To publically ask for prayers is an embarrassment to yourself and family – **FALSE**
 - a. David's desire to be forgiven and his repentance is well known. He is still regarded as a man of God. A Strong man whose life provides much for us to learn from consider **Psalm 51:1-12**
3. A strong person and a strong family are those who humbly and totally follow God - **TRUE**
 - a. **Psalm 119:105-112** – shows the desire to do right while repenting of sins whenever it is needed.

Conc:

1. Let us have the right from of mind concerning repentance and public pleas in general. Such is not a sign of weakness but a sign of humbleness and a reminder that we are only human.
 - a. **Psalm 103:13-14**

2. Let us always be those who are not only willing to ask for spiritual help but also those who are willing to give it humbly and lovingly.

Hear

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Believe

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever + in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Repent

Luke 13:3

I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

Confess

Rom 10:9 — Rom 10:10

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Be baptized

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16

And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.’

Remain Faithful

Revelation 2:10

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.