

Introduction: What is something in your past or in your present that you're ashamed of?

Three major reasons we have shame:

1. A theological reason – we _____ have shame.

2. Shame from things _____ to us.

3. Shame of things that we _____.

Three natural responses:

1. To _____.

2. To _____ the pain.

3. To _____.

¹Afterward Jesus appeared again to His disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

⁵ He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?”

“No,” they answered.

⁶ He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask Him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love Me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “You know that I love You.”

Jesus said, “Feed My lambs.”

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love Me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, You know that I love You.”

Jesus said, “Take care of My sheep.”

¹⁷ The third time He said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love Me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love Me?” He said, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.”

Jesus said, “Feed My sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then He said to him, “Follow Me!”

John 21:1-19

Principles:

1. Jesus _____ us where we are.
2. Jesus gently _____ that we face the truth about ourselves.
3. Jesus _____ our value and our worthiness by commissioning us to service.

Practical implications:

1. You can't forgive your mate until you have _____ both forgiveness and restoration. Ephesians 4:32
2. _____ God's forgiveness and restoration.
3. Freely _____ what you have received.

Tools for transformation:

D – _____ the issue clearly.

E – _____ the pain and hurt.

F – Ask for _____.

U – _____ the process.

- Phase 1: Forgive
- Phase 2: Forgiving
- Phase 3: Forgiven

S – _____ things right between you.

- Own your responsibility
- Confess: "I was wrong."
- Ask: "Will you forgive me?"
- Answer: "Yes, I forgive you."

E – _____ a specific game plan to move forward.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Jesus “bring up the past” with Peter? What was His motive and goal for Peter? For their relationship?
2. How did Jesus “model forgiving” Peter and restoring their relationship? Why is it critical to resolve real and/or perceived wounds in our relationships?
3. Which of the principles most challenged your thinking and/or practice in forgiving your mate?
4. What practical steps do you need to take to fully forgive your mate and put the past behind you?
5. Is there an issue you need to D.E.F.U.S.E.?