

Unpacking Wisdom- "Guilt and Unforgiveness"

Ephesians 2:4-9

I Peter 5:8-Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2 Corinthians 7:10. "For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

I John 1:9-If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins

II Corinthians 5:17- Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away, behold, the new has come.

Go Deeper (Matthew 26:69-75; John 21:15-19)

⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." ⁷⁰ But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." ⁷¹ And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁷² And again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man." ⁷³ After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you." ⁷⁴ Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. Why can religious pride be so difficult to overcome?

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

1. What are you still holding onto?
2. Why does it seem so difficult to overcome our sins? Why do we believe the lie "we are not good enough?"
3. Peter was a disciple of Jesus and denied knowing him, yet was called to lead the disciples? Why do you believe Jesus asked Peter to lead the disciples?
4. What did Peter's ministry look like after the ascension of Christ?
5. Culture leads us to believe we are not good enough...what can we do to show others how Christ feels about them?
6. What steps can you/we take to understand sin but not feel as though we can overcome it? Do you understand justification and sanctification?