

Christopublicrats - The Dirtiest Word in America

Isaiah 64:1-7; Romans 7:7-25; Matthew 7:7-11; Luke 18:18-19; John 3:3

Numerous studies confirm the growing use of _____ words across various American contexts. But there is still one word frowned upon, perhaps more than any other word in history: _____.

It was hard to write this week's sermon...until a _____, a _____, and a situation made it clear. Politics, parents, pastors and parishioners don't like dealing with sin.

"Why is it that when you give all the power to the workers in Socialism they get selfish and unproductive? And why is it when you give all the power to the men at the top in Capitalism they get selfish and exploitative... What is it about the human heart that guts every economic and political system we've ever put up...it's sin!" - Tim Keller

Sin has been in the _____ and on the periphery in this series. It needs to take _____ stage. Sin is why things never seem to work. The more free reign given to sin, the more _____ the dysfunction in society.

Sin is NOT any of the euphemisms we use to _____ its meaning: mistake, slip-up, human error etc.

Sin IS: _____; radical _____ centeredness; an issue for _____ and non-Christians alike; an affront to the _____; a _____ to the heart of a loving God; self-_____ and assault; a destroyer; a killer; sin is _____ business; it's so _____ and so deeply ingrained in us, Jesus said we would need to be _____ again; and it would take nothing less than the death of the sinless Son of God to pay the price.

Trusting in Jesus, receiving his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life doesn't _____ anything about sin. Sin is still all those things. It just doesn't get the _____ word on our eternal destiny.

If we believe what Jesus says about _____ and what he did to save us from it, we will take it so seriously that we will be willing to _____ our sin, quick to _____ our sins, and very willing to _____ from them.

We will be horrified to so lightly _____ such a holy God, and _____ at how we have broken his heart.

We won't _____ behind, "Well, it's not that bad." Or, "It's not as bad as others." Or, "I'm a good person." (Jesus says, "No one is good...") Nor, "Well, we're all sinners. I'm only human!" Nor, "Things are just different today. You can't take all of the Bible that seriously."

We also won't be _____ about acknowledging and addressing sin in society.

If all we want from God is a _____ good message that says we're "OK" the way we are, it ain't _____ we want! And the _____ we get as a result won't be (isn't!) pretty.

The God of Scripture _____ us to see and acknowledge (1) just how bad we really are, (2) how much it cost him and his Son to save us, (3) what kind of love he must have for us (4) repentance as the way to experience the explosive, transforming power of God's love (5) his way is better by turning from our sin.

Where is sin lurking undetected or hiding in plain sight in your life?

What Bible passages are convicting you?

What Bible passages are inviting you with his love?

How is God calling you to acknowledge sin and your life and turn toward him and his ways in repentance?