

If Suicide's the Answer ... What's the Question?

The Embarrassment of Disgrace

Sin. There's a word we don't use in today's real world of business acumen and political correctness. And yet, sin seeps into our lives like Stephen King's Mist in the town of Bridgton. And where there's sin, there are consequences. Besides the fear of being "busted," we often carry heavy burdens of guilt, and unresolved guilt gives birth to shame. One of the chief reasons adults consider life ending options is when the deep conviction of shame becomes unbearable. As we wrap up If Suicide's the Answer, What's the Question? series, we close with a Conversation about what we can do to help relieve the crushing weight of guilt and shame.

Matthew 27:1-5

1. Guilt is _____ because _____ is universal.
2. Sin is more than just a _____
_____.
3. _____ > _____ > _____ > _____.
4. _____ > _____ > _____ >
_____ > _____.
5. _____ is Key ... _____ and
_____ is Plan B.

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I want to attend the next Getting Started Lunch
- I'm ready to be a part of the Directions Discipleship Course
- I'm interested in a Life Group this fall
 - Men
 - Women
 - Couples/Co-Ed

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper, Going Further

Monday

Read: 2 Corinthians 6

1. What do you think it means to be “God’s coworker”? (v 1)
2. What do you think it means to avoid being “yoked” with unbelievers? (v 14)

Reflect: How will you serve as God’s coworker today?

Tuesday

Read: 2 Corinthians 7

1. From the tone of the letter, clearly the church members were “misbehaving” in some way. Why would Paul say that he takes “great pride” in their church? (v 4)
2. Why do you think Paul’s first letter to the Corinthian church hurt the members? (v 8–9)

Reflect: Have you experienced the “godly sorrow” that Paul speaks of in verse 11? Did that sorrow cause you to make changes in your life?

Wednesday

Read: 2 Corinthians 8

1. Why do you think the Corinthians had failed to complete their collections for the church that was struggling in Jerusalem? (v 10–15)
2. Paul sent three men to gather and accompany the offering to its final destination. Why do you think he sent three people (rather than fewer)?

Reflect: Why is the motivation for giving so important? (v 12)

Thursday

Read: 2 Corinthians 9

1. According to Paul, what are some of the motivations for cheerful giving?
2. Specifically, who were the recipients of this important offering? (v 12)

Reflect: How have you been investing in the church? What return on your investment are you seeing ... or hope to see?

Friday

Read: 2 Corinthians 10

1. Who is the church “waging war” with? (v 3–6)
2. What “actions” do you think Paul was suggesting that he might have to take when he was “present”? (v 11)

Reflect: How does the behavior of church members enhance or detract from a church’s reputation in the community? Why do you think a church’s reputation is important?

Saturday: *Who will you invite to worship with you tomorrow?*