

Unashamed

Intro:

When you get engaged you post it, when you get pregnant you post it. When you have a baby you post it. When you have a good day you post it. Which begs the question of this sermon. What do you do with good news?

Problem:

Acts 4:13-20

Why do we have to motivate ourselves to share gospel?

Why do we rely on pragmatic programs, pop psychology and pandering platitudes?

We are ashamed of it

We are ashamed of its power

We are ashamed of its provision

We are ashamed of its prescription

Main Idea:

Do not be ashamed of the gospel

of its power

of its provision

of its prescription

Implication:

Do not be not ashamed of the gospel

Be ashamed of pragmatism

Be ashamed of platitudes

Be ashamed of pretending

Application:

1 Tim 1:15

It was the gospel of amazing grace that saved a wretch like Paul.

It was the gospel of amazing grace that saved a wretch like me.

It was the gospel of amazing grace that saved a wretch like you.

Guess what?

It still works. It is still amazing. It is still saving wretches of every kind.

But we have to be unashamed enough to share it.

Outro:

Like me

Articles for further studies:

<https://www.9marks.org/article/long-term-consequences-of-pragmatism-in-the-church/>

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/erik-raymond/dont-give-them-hallmark-platitudes/>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/self-righteousness.html>

A great book to read: <https://www.amazon.com/Ashamed-Gospel-3rd-Church-Becomes/dp/1433509296>

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Text:

Do not be ashamed of the gospel

Rom. 1:16a **For (because)** I am not ashamed of the gospel,

Rom 1:15 (eager because not ashamed = proud, victorious)

2 Tim 1:8 (obviously shame was expected by Paul)

Mk 8:38 (shame expect by Christ- naked humiliated imprisoned mocked murdered...raised)

Mk 3:20-21 (his family ashamed)

matt 11:2-6 (john the baptist ashamed)

Lk 6:26 (we think shows are not ashamed because they mention Christmas - not the gospel)

Jn 12:41-43 (so why be ashamed? the glory that comes from man)

Heb 12:2 (despising the shame wrought victory)

Col 2:13-15 (reversed the shame- triumph- displayed it as a defeated foe)

Of its power

Rom 1:16b **for (because)** it is the **power** of God for salvation to **everyone** who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

2 Tim 3:1-5; 4:1-5 (we have an industry built by those ashamed of the gospel)

1 Cor 1:18-31 (do you wield power or pragmatism)

2 Cor 4:1-6 (do not be ashamed of the gospel - be ashamed of pragmatism)

There is no racial political or economic barrier to the gospel. Do you believe this? Prove it. Fill this place. You don't need a pragmatic plan, you definitely don't need politically correct preaching, you don't need personal perfection, you need the gospel. And you have it.

Of its provision

Rom. 1:17a **For (because)** in it the **righteousness** of God is **revealed** from faith (Christ's) for faith (ours),

Rom 3:5-28 (reveals His righteousness not ours)

(do not be ashamed of the gospel - be ashamed of platitudes)

(why not just forgive and save yeah good news- His righteousness matters...)

Of its prescription

Rom 1:17b as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Habakkuk 2:4 (or what? instead of pursuing His righteousness we pursue ours)

Phil 3:1-9 (Luther -alien righteousness of God)

(the gospel is the power...because it reveals the righteousness of God and from God)

Luke 18:9-14 (justified(almost same word) = declared righteous)

2 Cor 5:21 (declared righteous...and treated as such)

Mk 2:15-17 (will you trust Him or try harder?)

Jn 9:35-41 (do not be ashamed of the gospel - be ashamed of pretending)