

“Respectable” Sins – Week 2

Pop Quiz:

- 1) What is the condition of all mankind apart from Christ? _____
- 2) What is the only remedy for that condition? _____
- 3) In God’s eyes, are there acceptable, excusable, “Respectable” sins? _____

Pride

What are you most proud of? (kids?, grandkids?, your golf game?..) What is it about that “one thing” that makes you proud? What do Psalm 10:4, Proverbs 16:5, & Romans 12:3 reveal about how God views pride? Is the pride that you have in that “one thing” a sin? Why or why not?

Match the following verses with the potential for sinful pride that they point out:

Prov 4: 1-2

Romans 2:21

1 Corinthians 4:7

The potential sinful pride of independence

The potential sinful pride in achievement

Rusty’s potential sinful pride in teaching

Read Luke 18:9-14; to what kind of people did Jesus tell the parable of the self-righteous Pharisee? In this parable, what initially elevated the Pharisee in his own mind? Do you find yourself using a “magnifying glass” more than a “mirror”?

Selfishness

In what areas of life do you see selfishness demonstrated? How is that selfishness demonstrated? What is the root of our selfishness? (Read Rom 8:6-7, Gal 5:19-21, & Eph 2:3)

Because our time is precious, it is often easy to be selfish with it. What do the following verses reveal about sharing our time with others? (Read Gal 5:13 & 1 Peter 4:10...Bonus Points if you also look at Matt 25:31-46)

Read Romans 12:3, 1 Cor 13:4, & Phil 2:3-4; From each of these verses, what do you see God instructing us to do to counter the sins of pride and selfishness?

Unthankfulness

When did you first learn about being thankful? How was that lesson learned? Read 2 Tim 3:1-4; what does this passage say about God’s view of thankfulness and gratitude?

Read Phil 4:6-7 What attitude are we instructed to carry as we enter into prayer with God? Is that instruction dependent upon the circumstance? What challenges do you face in obeying that instruction?

What are some blessings God has given you? What are some trials or challenges that God has seen you through? While going through that trial or challenge, were you thankful for it? Read Acts 17:24-25; why is it important for each of us to thank God for both blessings and trials?

Ungodliness

What behavior do you see that characterizes someone as being ungodly? Can good people be ungodly? Have you ever gone through your daily activities without thinking of God?

Read James 4:13-16 For what expression of ungodliness does God’s Word condemn us?

Read 1 Tim 4:7-8 What are some practical things we can do to “train” ourselves for godliness or to be more godly?