

# I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL

Bible Study on 24 September 2019: 2019 Annual Conference of the Assembly of Confessing Congregations

## Adults/ Young Adults / Teenagers

Choose a few of these questions to discuss as a group. Spend about 10-15 minutes in discussion. You may like to reflect on the rest of the study in your own time. As a group present to the whole of the conference a short presentation. (3 minutes only). It can be in words, a song, a memory verse, reading in your heart language, a prayer, drama, dance or art. Something to help the rest of the conference reflect deeper on Romans 1:16.

### Read Romans 1:16-17

1. When in your life have you felt most embarrassed or ashamed?
2. What do people do to try and get rid of shame? Read Romans 1:24-25. Galatians 1:10.
3. John Piper says that “The Gospel causes shaming and gives freedom from it”. <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/not-ashamed-of-the-gospel> We may be shamed because of the Gospel, but we will not be ashamed of the gospel. What does this mean?
4. In what ways was Jesus shamed for doing His Father’s will? Read Matthew 27:27-31; 38-44. How was Jesus freed of being controlled by shame? Read Hebrews 11:1-3
5. In what ways was Paul shamed because of the gospel? Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-26. How was Paul freed from shame through the gospel? Read 1 Corinthians 1:22-24; and Romans 1:16. *“So before we can see in Romans 1:16 that the gospel is the basis of Paul’s freedom from shame, we see that it was first the basis of his being shamed. The gospel does two things: It brings out shaming behaviour in those who will not believe it. And it gives freedom from shame to those who do believe it.”* John Piper.
6. What is the gospel that we are to be unashamed of and what is its nature? Read Romans 1:2-4; 16-17?
7. What do you think is the saving faith that Paul mentions in Romans 1:16-17? See Romans 4:21-26; Romans 5:1-5; Romans 12:1-3. How does this saving faith, relate to not being ashamed of the gospel?
8. How do these readings help us in the UCA, when as the Assembly of Confessing Congregations we are shamed because of confessing Christ and proclaiming the truth? How can the gospel help to free us from shame as it did with Jesus and Paul?
9. Shame is not always something that is wrong. It can be a gift, leading us to repentance when we do wrong. Read 2 Corinthians 7:11. How can we know the difference between good shame and shame that enslaves us? Why is this balance important as we relate as a confessing movement in the UCA?

## For Children and Preschool

Read Romans 1:16-17

1. Tammy felt so embarrassed. She had been away because she was sick. The first day back was a special day when everyone could wear their own clothes, but she didn't know about it. All the kids at school laughed at her and called her teacher's pet for wearing her school uniform. Tammy felt really bad inside and wanted to slink into a corner and hide. **Have you felt embarrassed like Tammy?**



FOR I am  
NOT  
ASHAMED  
of the Gospel  
of Christ  
Romans 1:16

2. Sometimes people can make others feel bad. Tammy's school mates did this to Tammy. Sometimes people shame us because we have done wrong. But sometimes they make us feel bad because we do right instead of wrong. Sometimes people even can make fun of us for loving Jesus and talking about him. This happened to Paul all the time. But did this stop him doing right and talking about Christ? Read Romans 1:16 again.

Doodle Art Alley ©

3. The gospel is good news. Who do you think this good news might be about? Read the Bible verse: Romans 1:2-3

As a group present to everyone else in the conference a presentation. (3 minutes only). It can be in words, a song, a memory verse, reading in your heart language, a prayer, drama, dance or art. Something to help the rest of the conference think about Romans 1:16.