



FIVE FACES OF SALVATION Part 4: The Face of Defilement

Two Verses:

We are constant sinners; how can people like us be saved?

6 We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind. –Isa. 64:5-6

God's Promises:

I will cleanse them of their sins against me and forgive all their sins of rebellion. –Jer. 33:7

They will never again pollute themselves with their idols and vile images and rebellion, for I will save them from their sinful backsliding. I will cleanse them. Then they will truly be my people, and I will be their God. Ezek. 37:23

Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God. 2 Cor. 7:1

But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

8 If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. 9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. 1 John 1:7-9

In these verses, we see:

We are to live in the _____

We are to _____ our sins.

The blood of Jesus removes our _____, and _____ our purity.

Two Stories:

Matthew 15:1-20

- Jesus is the true _____ of the world.
- See that the _____ cannot hide from Jesus
- Jesus _____ everything that makes us useless to God..

John 12:35-50; 13:1-20

- Jesus is the _____ of our souls—He removes our defilement.

- See that Jesus _____ a life of service to others.
- His work on our behalf gives us a _____.
- Jesus commands his _____ to do as He did.



Forest Meadow
בְּרֵי אֱלֹהִים

From our story to His story...

1. Begin thinking about the ways God has taken you from a place or position of defiled to a place or position of purity. In the space below, identify specific ways or even specific circumstances in which you have experienced his cleansing. Consider how he has cleansed you, how he has received you, how he found you, etc.

2. Now identify one of the stories in Matthew or John we studied that most relates to how you have seen God bestow His honor in your own salvation. Once you have identified that story, use it to fill in the blanks below....

One of my favorite stories about Jesus is when:

(Fill in details of story in approximately 3-4 sentences here...)

3. The whole point of the story is to show us that Jesus came to... (State the reason why Jesus came, i.e., to restore us, to rescue us, to reveal Himself to us, etc.)

4. Would you like to know more about how God wants to cleanse you with His blood?

EXAMPLE...

You know, one of my favorite stories about Jesus is when a woman who had a really bad reputation for sin – most likely as a prostitute – came to Jesus. She was an outcast in her society, and no one thought Jesus should even speak to her, but he welcomed her into his presence, forgave her of all her sins, and eventually she left with a peace and wholeness that she would experience for the rest of her life. When everyone else looked at her with shame, Jesus honored her in his presence. The point of this story is to show how Jesus takes us, even in the middle of all our sin and shame, and he receives us into His family when we trust in Him. Would you like to know more about how God wants to honor you by receiving you into his presence?

Now if you really want to go all out, do the same activity for other stories!

After completing the homework above, get prepared to share that particular story at a moment's notice. Then pray specifically for an opportunity to share it with someone else this

week. As you have the opportunity to share your story and/or His story, be ready to share with fellow believers how God involved you in His work!



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