

Revolution Of Restoration

Study Guide

DEFENDING OUR REPUTATIONS

Session Three

Why do we defend our reputations? We are afraid of others seeing our flaws. We often times use our reputations to cover up our past. Many times it means we want to be in first place or to avoid being confronted. Most Christians want others thinking more highly of them in order to live out what the observer's want. For many it is to have their name stand out above others. The bottom line, its pride!!

What ways do you try to defend your reputation?

So what exactly is "first" from God's viewpoint? It is to further the glory of God. "*The duty of the Christian is to make the invisible Kingdom of God visible.*" God does not exist for us; we exist for Him. God refuses to mix His power with our strength. Our purpose is to reveal the glory of His Name. All of our "to-do's" are to bring glory to God. By having us focus on revealing God's reputation we give glory back unto the Father.

Read Corinthians 10:31 and answer the following question: *What do you do that you know brings glory unto the Father?*

God seeks to go public. The local church is to show the dark world the kind of God He really is. The Body of Christ is to demonstrate there is only one God and this is done by caring for one another in such a way that unbelievers are amazed at whom we are. God is more interested in rescuing His name than He is yours – but He uses our weak frail vessels to do it!

What ways do you try to promote your name over God's?

"I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new Spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes." Ezekiel 36:24-27 Consider praying this prayer of restoration for your soul:

Prayer: *Father, I accept You're cleansing from all my filthiness and from the idols I have allowed to be in my life. I choose to embrace the reality that You gave me a new heart and put Your Holy Spirit within me. I thank you that you took my heart of stone and put within me the heart of Your Son! I rejoice in the fact that You put your Spirit in me and You are the One who causes me to walk in Your statutes and that I can not live life on my own resources. I am a new creature and I pray that you would empower me to live the Christian life in and through the life of Christ that has revolutionized my life. In Christ Name I pray... Amen*