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Chapter 2

This chapter seeks to provide a bit of clarity between the differences of guilt versus shame. Guilt and shame are two influences that do affect the way that people create the foundation of their identities. Some of the disparities between guilt and shame relate to one being affected by internal influences while the other is affected by external influences. Shame has internal factors that are used to regulate morals, while guilt is something that is internal and must come from oneself. The author uses the story of Adam and Eve as a reference point for both guilt and shame, while also including fear as we see that Adam and Eve experienced all three of these emotions after disobeying God's command. Shame is a major theme that is seen numerous times throughout the Bible. The author mentions many different passages and stories throughout the Bible both the Old and New Testament that relate to shame. Jesus' walk on Calvary and everything that they did to him, with the crucifixion and everything that led up to it was done in an attempt to shame Jesus. Their intentions were to shame Jesus because He was claiming to be something that they believed that He was not, the Messiah. When studying the Gospel from a culture that is shame based, it helps to bring a better understanding of the importance of the public nature of the atonement. The author makes the argument that if Jesus died for our guilt that it could have been done anywhere or even privately. As sinners who are deserving of shame, Jesus died and through his death he publicly bore our shame and guilt.

What would be the best way for us to participate in spreading the Gospel without adding the shame element to new believers?

I think as it pertains to spiritual leadership, pastoring as well as missional leaders I believe that it is our job to spread love and not guilt and shame. The goal should be to teach new believers to know that God loves them for who they are and that He's a good father and we do not have to be embarrassed, ashamed, or feel guilty about what we do; but rather this love should motivate us to want to change for the better and be better people.