

OPEN DOORS ON MISSION



How to Overcome Shame and Make a Difference

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1. **In 2 Chronicles 29:6-7, Hezekiah lists the specific ways his ancestors abandoned God (shutting doors, snuffing out lamps).**
When you look at your own "spiritual heritage" or family history, what are some "shut doors" or "extinguished lamps" you feel you've inherited?
2. **Do you find it harder to deal with the shame of your own mistakes, or the shame associated with your family, community, or past?**
3. **Sometimes shame can feel "bizarrely comfortable" because it gives us an excuse to focus on ourselves. Why do you think we sometimes prefer the familiar weight of shame over the "scary" freedom of God's grace?**
4. **Hezekiah's first move was to "remove all the defiled things."**
If your heart is the temple of the Holy Spirit, what is one specific "defiled thing" (an idol, a habit, or a secret grudge) that God is asking you to carry out of the sanctuary today?
5. **Read John 9:1-11**
Jesus said the blind man's condition happened so "the power of God could be seen in him."
How could God use the very thing you are most ashamed of to display His power to others?
6. **Hezekiah wanted a new covenant with God to enter a new season of obedience, worship, and godly action. He followed this pattern with the leaders: Listen, Purify, Remove, Recognize, Commit, Lead.**
Which of these is your necessary "next step" in your relationship with God right now?