

NOT ASHAMED
THE BOOK OF ROMANS
Pastor Annette Swor – 3.3.24
Romans 2:17-24

Luke 18:9-142

Corinthians 5:20 NLT

Romans 2:17-21a

Parenting was so much easier when I raised my non-existent children hypothetically!

Romans 2:21b-24

No one rejects Jesus because we're sinners – they reject Jesus because Christian folks are sinners & pretend, we're not.

Religious pride **creates a hard heart.**

You can learn with your heart or with your elbow.

- The heart says...before I apply this to anyone else, God, I give you permission to take this truth, this law, this righteous idea and apply it to the inner most part of me.
- The elbow says, are you getting this? Are you listening?

A hard heart leads to a hypocritical life

2 Corinthians 12:9 NIV

Romans 1:25-29

"You are no better off than an uncircumcised Gentile"

"Circumcision has value only if you obey God's law."

"True circumcision is not merely obeying the letter of the law; rather, it is a change of heart produced by the Spirit."

1. Am I teachable?

- Do I tend to cling to right answers?
- Do I listen to that still small voice of the Holy Spirit that says you have more to learn?
- Are we listening with our heart or elbow?

2. Have I let religion harden my heart?

- Do I want the right answer or right relationship?

3. Does my life evidence the Spirit of God?

- The evidence is: Love, Joy, peace, patience – the fruit of the Spirit.

Are we interruptible?

Am I on my agenda or the Holy Spirit's agenda?

Are you ever convicted?

Are you ever uncomfortable?

... a true Jew is one whose heart is right with God. And true circumcision is not merely obeying the letter of the law; rather, it is a change of heart produced by the Spirit. And a person with a changed heart seeks praise from God, not from people.

Philippians 3:3 NLT