



TALKING POINTS



Shame Redeemed

Learning to Live in Christ's Freedom

August 4, 2026 | \$19.99, 192 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-1232-1

Toni Kim is director of spiritual care at the National Association of Evangelicals. Previously, she served over twenty years as a pastor in Vancouver and Boston. Toni and her husband Walter currently live in Charlottesville, Virginia, and have two adult children.

The Freedom to Be Unashamed

We are God's beloved children. Yet too often our imperfections lead to feelings of shame that leave us insecure and anxious, affecting how we view ourselves, each other, and God. Shame makes us feel that we are not good enough and can prevent us from receiving the love God wants to lavish on us.

God wants more for us. We don't have to be perfect to be loved by God. In Christ he frees us to increasingly live unashamedly in a world that is quick to shame us.

Shame Redeemed unpacks the following questions, and more:

- Why do I struggle with shame even though I believe in grace?
- What is the difference between guilt and shame?
- What am I longing for in my relationship with God, and how does Jesus provide that?
- Is shame good or bad? What is a proper sense of shame?
- Why is my life lacking peace?
- What are lies I tell myself about God?
- How has our culture influenced how we deal with shame?
- What is the difference between condemnation and conviction?
- What is at the root of shame?
- How do I turn shame into joy?
- What does it mean to be unashamed?



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Q & A



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Jesus Redeems Our Shame

What motivated you to write *Shame Redeemed*?

Toni Kim: I want people to find freedom in Christ. My calling has been to share the good news of Jesus—not to the unreached people groups who have never heard the gospel, but to those who understand the gospel only through a guilt lens and remain bound by shame. As an Asian American Christian, I understand shame both viscerally and communally. About thirty years ago, I wrote my master's thesis on what the Bible says about shame and how that affects Asian American evangelism and spiritual formation. Since then, dominant culture in America has become increasingly shame-based, especially with the social-media cancel culture. Over twenty years of ministry in multiethnic settings has shown me that Christians of all ages and races need to know that the good news of Jesus deals not only with our guilt problem but also with our shame problems.

In this book, I want to enable people to label shame in their lives, to experience God's love for them more deeply, and to find freedom in Christ. This freedom is both internal and corporate, affecting how we view ourselves and how we relate to God and to others.

What is distinctive about your approach to the topic?

Toni: Many books focus solely on solving the internal experience of unhealthy shame. This is good and necessary, but only a part of how the Bible talks about shame. I explore the complexity of shame in the Bible, including its relationship to sin and guilt, the danger of shamelessness, and the freedom to be unashamed of Jesus and his Word. As an Asian American female in ministry, I bring wisdom from the margins that emphasizes dependence on God and interdependence with others. Understanding that we need more than just head knowledge, the book also suggests spiritual practices to help God's liberating truth sink into our very bones.

What are five main things you want readers to take away from your book?

Toni:

1. While shame tempts us to hide, God invites us to come to him to find healing, clothing, and adoption into his family.
2. God's love for us is lavish. He does not treat us as our sins deserve; instead, he lovingly covers our unhealthy shame and repeatedly reaffirms that we are his beloved children and heirs.



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3. We need to practice rejecting the accusations of the devil and attuning our ears to the voice of the Good Shepherd.
4. There are different sources of shame (our sin, the sins of others against us, our failures not involving sin), and God has solutions for each of them.
5. Being unashamed is more than personal transformation; we are part of God's new kingdom, unashamed to follow our crucified Savior.



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