

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

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SERMON TITLE Beautiful Feet

SERIES

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KEY SCRIPTURE Romans 10:13-15

SYNOPSIS We must go with the Good News. Here some practical ways to share your faith.

HIGHLIGHTS



☞ Beautiful Feet

Romans 10:13-15

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "**How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!**"

What is 750,000 miles long? It could wrap itself around the earth 30 times and it grows an additional 20 miles longer with each passing day? It is the line of people on earth who do not know Jesus...

--Rick Warren... "As long as there is one person in driving distance of our church who doesn't know the Lord, we want to grow. Nothing is more important than reaching people for the Lord, yet it is easy to be distracted from our purpose. We need to stay focused on reaching one more for Jesus."

Bill Hybels, Pastor of one of the largest churches in America echoed the thought, when he said, "we have never looked eyes with someone that did not matter to God"

☞ **God wants everyone saved.** 2 Peter 3:9 says, "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

☞ **Jesus is the only way.** Acts 4:12... Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." (cf. John 14:6)

☞ **We are commanded to tell others.** Matthew 28:19 says, "go and make disciples..."

There's an old fable about a conversation between God and his angels. Jesus had just risen from the dead and ascended into heaven. The angels were curious about this new thing that Jesus had died and risen from the dead to establish – the church. And they asked all kinds of questions about how God was going to get it started. In the course of the conversation, it became obvious that the success of this new venture depended heavily upon the men that had walked with Jesus and had been His disciples.

One of the angels laughed and said, "You've got to be kidding! It depends on these guys? These men are not well educated... they're not particularly brave... they've been misfits and failures all their lives. And you're telling us that these men are the key to whether the church survives or not? What happens if they fail? Do you have a plan B?" And looking steadily at the angel, God replied "No, there is no plan B. This is THE PLAN.

You see, you and I are plan "A." And there is no other plan. God will do His part in reaching the people around us, but he expects us to do our part in spreading the message. In fact, He's gone



so far as to tell us that people cannot believe in Jesus if they've not heard of Him (Romans 10:14) --- from people like us. The salvation of others hinges on whether they hear about Jesus from us.

How can we possibly reach the world? (together; and, the same way you eat an elephant)

You've heard about the elderly man walking on the beach and stopping to pick up starfish to toss them back in the ocean. A bystander scoffed because there were so many on the beach. He said, "you're wasting your time; what difference could you possibly make?" The old man picked up another, tossed it into the ocean and said, "well, it sure made a difference for that one, didn't it?"

Methods of Evangelism

The part of the lost is to hear and believe. The part of the Christian is to go and to preach.

A couple of years ago Newsweek had an article on Religion and Street Gangs. They interviewed a Pentecostal preacher named Rivers. When he first moved into this neighborhood, Rivers sought out a local drug dealer named Selvin... and that drug dealer gave Rivers a lesson in why God was losing to gangs in the battle for the souls of inner-city kids. "Selvin explained to us, 'I'm there when Johnny goes out for a loaf of bread for Mama. I'm there, you're not. I win, you lose. It's all about being there.'" When Jesus sought to save mankind, he walked with them.

v. 15 Feet? ...**what's so significant about our feet?** ... it's not our feet that tell about Jesus... that would be our head and our mouth.

There was probably a very good reason why God talked about our feet in this passage:
1st... many people talk a good talk... but they don't walk a good walk. The message has no power if the messenger doesn't walk with Jesus. If a person talks the talk but doesn't walk the walk, we have a special name for them. (hypocrites) We've got to walk the walk for our talk to ☞ have any impact. **If you're going to talk the talk, you better walk the walk.**

2nd..., Feet are personal! I can't divorce myself from my feet. I can't send my feet somewhere that I can't go myself. I have to go where my feet go.

Matthew 28:19

☞ go and make disciples of all nations... some interpret this to say, **"as you go..."**

☞ Preach – talk about the Good News; **talk about Jesus**. That's what the first disciples did. Philip, Paul, and Apollos all talked about Jesus. Yes, there were some theological discussions and debates, but primarily, they simply told people about Jesus.

D.L. Moody once spoke with a woman who didn't like his method of evangelism. "I don't really like mine all that much either," he said. "What's yours?" She replied that she didn't have one. Moody said, "Then I like mine better than yours..."



Here are some practical tools to share your faith:

☞ The Roman's Road to Salvation:

1. Every human is a sinner.

Romans 3:23... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

2. God's penalty for sin is death.

Romans 6:23a... the wages of sin is death,

3. God provided for the salvation of sinners.

Romans 6:23b... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

4. Each person must put his trust in God's Son, Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:9-10... if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

☞ The ABCs of Salvation:

Admit you are a sinner in need of the Savior, Jesus Christ

Believe that Jesus died to pay the penalty for your sins

Confess Jesus as Lord and Savior of your life.

1. Admit you are a sinner in need of the Savior, Jesus Christ: A relationship with Jesus Christ begins with your admission that you need God.

2. Believe that Jesus died to pay the penalty for your sins: The penalty for your sin is death. God loves you so much; He provides a way for you to escape that penalty.

3. Confess Jesus as Lord and Savior of your life: Confessing Jesus as Lord means to commit total control of your life to Christ. Receive him as your personal Savior and Lord. You give him the ownership of your life. He becomes your new boss. If you confess Jesus as Lord of your life, the Bible says you will be saved.

☞ You must be "Born Again" (or, John 3 evangelism)

John 3:3... no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.

John 3:5... I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit

John 3:16... For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

☞ Personal Testimony

John 9:25

He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"



- A. Before I was a Christian**
- B. How I became a Christian**
- C. Now that I am a Christian**

Acts 26... Paul's testimony to Agrippa

v.5 I lived as a Pharisee...

v.13 I saw a light from heaven...

v.19,22 I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven...

I have had God's help to this very day...

The following prayer is one you can use to confess Jesus as Lord and ask Him to save you:

☞ **"Dear God, I admit I am a sinner in need of you. Please forgive me of my sins and give me the gift of eternal life with you in heaven. I believe Jesus died and rose again for my sins. Jesus, to come into my life and be my Lord and Savior. Thank you for saving me. Amen."**

Pastor Greg Laurie tells the story about a barber who went to attend a meeting one night where the speaker was stressing the need to share Christ with others. The barber was determined after that meeting that he would share Jesus with the first person he met that next morning in his chair. "The next morning, after the customer had been seated and the apron was tucked around his neck, the barber began to strop his razor vigorously. Testing the edge, he turned to the man in the chair and blurted out, "Friend, are you ready to die and meet God?" The man looked at the razor and fled out the door-apron and all!"

--Mark Connelly... I've seen some pretty lousy gospel presentations that people respond to. I've done it myself. There have been times when I've presented the gospel so poorly that I was boring myself, but the person responded in faith. There have been other times when I've answered every objection with pinpoint accuracy like a stealth bomber over Baghdad, and the person looks at me like I'm from Mars. Kingdom expansion really is a God thing, not a human thing. Just be faithful to tell people about Jesus and His Kingdom, then rest in the fact that God will take it from there....