



## Beautiful Feet Bringing Good News

### SSBC Bible Study #74

*Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.*

### Special Missions Week Study

Sermon Dates: Feb 25 and Mar 4, 2007

I love good news, don't you? What would be some really good news to get right now? How about ... "You've won a free trip to a tropical island!" or ... "Your tax refund is huge this year!" or ... "So-and-so was suddenly healed!" There are many kinds of good news – but overshadowing all that is the good news. Have you heard this news? If you haven't, ask God to open your eyes so you can see it – and He will!

Or perhaps you've heard this news many times, but have forgotten that it was given to you along with a mission. You see, we aren't supposed to just hear the message and then sit back. No! We're each supposed to go out and pass it along to others. Let's help each other to have the "beautiful feet" of those who bring God's good news to others.

Do you know the good news? Let's explore it together.

*These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon as inserts in the church bulletin and are also posted at <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC>. Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact [studieditor@southshorebaptist.com](mailto:studieditor@southshorebaptist.com)*

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1. First, let's look at some good-news-bearers in the Old Testament.
  - a. Read Nahum 1:15 and note your observations and questions.

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><b>Nahum 1:15</b></p> <p>Look, there on the mountains, the feet of one who brings good news, who proclaims peace!</p> <p>Celebrate your festivals, O Judah, and fulfill your vows.</p> <p>No more will the wicked invade you; they will be completely destroyed.</p>	

- b. What is the good news that is referred to in this passage?  
(For broader context, read the rest of chapter one of Nahum.)

- c. Who was waiting for that news, and why was it such a big deal to them?

2. Next, look at another Old Testament prophecy of hope.
  - a. Read Isaiah 52:7 and note your observations and questions.

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><b>Isaiah 52:7</b></p> <p>How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!”</p>	

- b. What is the good news that is referred to in this passage?  
(For broader context, read Isaiah 51:17-52:12.)

- c. Who was waiting for that news, and why was it such a big deal to them?

NOTE: For a detailed review of Isaiah 52:7, you can listen online to the sermon preached about it by Mark Jennings at SSBC on Jan 2, 2005. (Go to <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC/2005> and click on January 2)

3. Now study the New Testament passage that quotes Isaiah 52:7. In Paul's letter to the Romans, he thoroughly lays out the gospel message, coming to somewhat of a crescendo in chapter 10.

a. Read **Romans 10:8-17** and note your observations and questions.

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><sup>8</sup> But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: <sup>9</sup> That 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. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.</p> <p><sup>11</sup> As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup> for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”</p> <p><sup>14</sup> 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? <sup>15</sup> And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”</p> <p><sup>16</sup> But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” <sup>17</sup> Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.</p>	

b. According to this passage, what must a person do to be saved?

c. What about you? Have you really heard the good news yourself?

Do you believe that Jesus Christ died to pay the penalty you deserve because of your sins, and that by rising from the dead he defeated the power of sin and enabled us to be restored to an eternal relationship with God our Father?

Do you know that if you (1) confess your sins and yield control over your life to Christ (i.e. let him be “Lord” over you), and (2) believe the above things about Jesus, then God promises that you will be saved and get to one day go to heaven to be with Him forever in a true paradise!

d. What questions do you have about this good news?

(Do you know someone who you could talk to about your questions? If you don't, then speak to one of the pastors or elders – they really enjoy these kinds of questions.)

e. List or draw the sequence of events in the process that begins with one being **sent** (to carry the good news) and another one being **saved**? What happens after the last step?

4.a. What role in the above process (question 3.e) does each follower of Christ play? (consider Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8, and Romans 10:14)

b. How are you doing at this role?

c. How could you get more ready to have such “beautiful feet” yourself?  
(Consider Eph 6:10-18, 1 Pet 3:15-16)

*Stand firm then, ...  
with your feet fitted  
with the readiness  
that comes from  
the gospel of peace.  
(Eph 6:14-15)*

d. Is there something specific you could do to know the gospel (good news) better? How could you prepare yourself to share the gospel more effectively?

5. Why is the gospel important? (consider Rom 1:16 and 1 Cor 15:2)

6. The gospel can be summarized in three main points. The following sets of verses detail those main points. Explore each set, and then write in your own words that part of the gospel message.

a. Isa 53:5-6, Rom 3:23, Rom 6:23a, 1 Cor 15:3, Heb 9:27

Gospel Main Point #1: (aka “the bad news”)

b. Rom 5:8, Rom 6:23b, 1 Cor 15:4-8, 1 Pet 3:18

Gospel Main Point #2: (aka “the good news”)

c. John 1:12, Rom 10:9,13, 1 Cor 15:1-2, Rev 3:20

Gospel Main Point #3: (aka “the response”)

NOTE: For a detailed discussion of the gospel, you can listen online to the sermon Pastor Jeramie preached about it at SSBC on Apr 24, 2005. (Go to <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC/2005> and click on April 24)

7. How might you personally play a more significant part in sending out more people with “beautiful feet” to share the good news? How could we as a church do better at sending out missionaries? If you are in a small group, how can your group get more involved in the “beautiful feet” business?

8. What are your key takeaways from this study? What specific thing(s) are you going to do in order to help spread the good news – the gospel of Jesus and his Kingdom?

**“I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields!  
They are ripe for harvest.”  
(John 4:35)**