

# beautiful

LIVES THAT SHOW THE GOSPEL

**Message Topic:** Seo Sang-ryun (pronounced “Say-oh Sa-eng Re-uun”) and the beauty of sharing Jesus

**Message Date:** October 11, 2020

**Focus:** The beauty of sharing the good news of Jesus

**Primary biblical texts:** Matthew 28:16–20, 1 John 1:1–4, Isaiah 52:7–10, Romans 10:14–15

## Introduction

Our goal is to engage in conversations about the beautiful life that Jesus has called us to live. Each week, we will be unpacking an element of this life. Each topic is paired with a historical figure who will show us one way to embody each week’s topic.

## Purpose of Community Groups

To engage with the ideas and scripture presented in the messages, to build connections with each other, and apply what we have learned to our lives.

## Gathering

(To help people get to know each other.)

*Mixer Question:* What do you recommend? (This could be anything from a TV show to a food item.)

## Message Content

*Review Message:* Christian shared this week about Seo Sang-ryun, a businessman in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century who got sick on a business trip in Manchuria in China. While recovering in a hospital run by two Scottish missionaries, Seo Sang-ryun came to know Jesus and helped to translate the gospel of Luke into Korean. He traveled home and established the first churches in Korea, through which Christianity grew to encompass over 30 percent of the population. Seo Sang-ryun had an encounter with Jesus that compelled him to share Jesus with others.

*Discussion Questions:*

1. Think of a person who has shared Jesus with you. Tell the group about them and their impact.
2. Christian said that he thinks that what our country needs most right now is Jesus. What does this stir within you? Do you agree? Disagree? Why?

## Scripture Study

Read 1 John 1:1–4

1. What is John’s source for his declarations about Jesus?
2. What stands out about his reasons for writing to share about his interaction and experience with Jesus? Do you recognize yourself in any of these reasons?

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Read Isaiah 52:7–10

1. What is the “good news” that the beautiful feet are bringing in this passage?
2. What changes in our lives or in the world when we hear the good news?

## Personal Reflection

1. Think about some of your passions. What does sharing about these things with others do to your feelings toward these things?
2. As you think about the interactions and experiences that you have had with Jesus, what stands out as beautiful? What do you think is beautiful about Jesus that others should know about Jesus?

## Challenge

1. Think of a person who needs to know about Jesus, write their name down and pray for them today to know Jesus more.
2. Pick one or more of these practical expressions to do this week. Christian encouraged us to:
  1. invite someone to church,
  2. read and study the Bible with others, and
  3. share scripture with others who might need encouragement.
3. Read 1 John this week and ask God to help you see his beauty expressed in Jesus more so that you will want to invite others to see and know Jesus’ beauty too.

## Prayer (from the message)

Beautiful God, thank you that you care about us and have not left us alone. Thank you that Jesus is our brother who has done more than we could ask or imagine. Please show us more of your beauty so that we might love you more. You have called our feet beautiful when we participate with you to bring your healing and freeing word to others. Help us to see that Jesus is something everyone in this world needs. Keep our hearts humble and our minds peaceful as we go about this holy work you have given the church. As we share Jesus with others, we wait in patient expectation for you to do far more than we ever could on our own, because this is not our work but yours. Do whatever you will do! In all things, we pray “Come Holy Spirit” as we try to practice your presence and attend to your love. Help us to follow our master and teacher Jesus by sharing the Good News of God with the world around us, knowing that you sustain us with love and grace forevermore. In all things we pray, Amen.