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Beautiful Feet

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How beautiful upon 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!’ — Isaiah 52:7 NIV

Have you ever thought of feet as beautiful? Not the cute little soft feet of a newborn; I mean grown-up feet like yours and mine. When I think of the adjective “beautiful,” “feet” is not usually the first noun that jumps to mind; but a few months ago, the Lord opened my eyes to the beauty of feet that Isaiah understood when he was writing Chapter 52.

During summer 2011, I spent ten weeks, 40 hours a week, carrying Christian books door-to-door as a student literature evangelist. Because the weather was hot, I wore flip flops or sandals as I trekked through miles of neighborhoods and country roads in Michigan with a heavy bag of books slung across my shoulder.

At the end of each day, I returned to the school where our canvassing group was hosted and headed to the bathroom to try to remove eight hours of dust and dirt from my feet before putting them into my sleeping bag for the night. As I lathered my feet with soap and rinsed them with warm water, my mind ran through the experiences I’d had that day and reviewed each person I’d encountered. Some were polite, and some not so polite. Some knew Jesus, and some didn’t. Some were experiencing trauma and pain in their lives that I couldn’t even imagine, and others seemed to have smooth sailing. Some refused my books; some accepted, having a genuine interest in spiritual things or just wanting to help a student go to school. But all of them had an opportunity to come to know Christ that day. All of them received a chance to know the truth that sets us free. All of a sudden, my dirty, tired feet began to look pretty beautiful.

What did Jesus’ feet look like at the end of a long day of ministry 2,000 years ago? I’m sure they were tired and dusty and needed to be washed before He could go to bed. But, I’m sure, to Jesus those feet were beautiful because they carried Him about on His missions of mercy, allowing Him to show the love of His Father to a world of lost sinners.

How are your feet looking today? Do they carry you in the footsteps of Jesus and take you to share the Good News of His Gospel message? If so, they are beautiful.

“How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” (Romans 10:15 KJV)

Jennifer Calhoun, 20, is a sophomore at Andrews University where she is majoring in nursing. When not at school, she resides in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and is a member of the Williamsport SDA Church.