

Saturday, October 22, 2022

FEET

Apostles & Evangelists

We are in a series exploring spiritual **gifts**. The bible says you are the body Christ, and individually members of it. Today we explore **FEET. Please turn to Romans 10:8-15, page 946 in the Pew bibles.** Please welcome Simon, who read our text this morning, and remain standing for the reading of the word.

As a review, Why this series? To alleviate fears and assumptions surrounding spiritual gifts that we may have a word focused and spirit-filled church!

What is a spiritual gift?

["A spiritual gift is when the Holy Spirit manifests his presence and imparts his power into and through individual believers to enable them to exceed the limitations of their finite humanity so that they might faithfully and effectively fulfill certain ministry tasks for the building up of the body of Christ." Sam Storms](#)

We have explored thus far, the why, what & how. The point of spiritual gifts being to build the church; increase the potential of an individual within the context of one another. We spent 2 weeks taking an honest look about the history of the church and the Pros & Cons of the charismatic movement. 2 weeks about NT Prophecy. Last week we looked at hands; the gifts of serving, helping and mercy. This week... feet. So if everyone could take off your shoes and show your feet to your neighbor, that would be great!

Today we look at 2 gifts. **Apostles and Evangelists.**

Our text this morning starts with the Apostle Paul in the middle of stating his case for salvation by faith alone, specifically about gentiles and jews.

Read 9:30-32 & 10:3-4

The end of the law; Is it not good news that we are not under the weight that comes from entering God's presence by our own rule keeping. Our feeble attempts to remove our own stains. I can barely keep my clothes stain free, let alone my soul. Our righteousness comes from outside of us. It's not ours; we did not earn it, gain it, nor can we sustain it... It's Christ's. Yet, he declares it over us.

Read vs. 8 This is a quote from Deuteronomy 30

But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it. See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. Deuteronomy 30:14-15

This "life and good" is set before us like a meal we need only to partake!

What is this "word of faith that we proclaim"?

Read vs. 9-10, its life!

-Life abundant IN CHRIST! Behold, all things new! *GOSPEL

Read vs. 11-13 it's good!

-Will not be put to shame! My heart needs this daily!

-Bestowing his riches! Ephesians 1-Blessed with every spiritual blessing in high places! Holy Spirit-gifts us to be a part of his grand design!

This word of faith, this good news; it brings life and good and delivers us from death and evil! How could we neglect so great a salvation!!! It's near to you! It's in your mouth and heart. It's a step of faith and confession away! Believe and receive the good news of Jesus!

This is the greatest news ever given to mankind! And those who believe and receive, are called to share it!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and **gave us the ministry of reconciliation**; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and **entrusting to us** the message of reconciliation.

Therefore, **we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us**. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

We are all called to this task!

Read vs. 14-18, How will they hear if we don't preach? How will our world change, sex slavery, pornography, racism, abortion, oppression, hunger, will they not change when the hearts of people are made new, understand the grace of God and respond with a life of gratitude?

Proclaiming this good news is way more than a sinners prayer, it's a sinner redeemed to bless the nations! And one heart at a time, we change our world!

And yet, God has gifted some to do it with ease. "the Holy Spirit manifests his presence and imparts his power into and through individual believers to enable them to exceed the limitations of their finite humanity so that they might faithfully and effectively" share the good news.

Apostles & Evangelist

How do you know if you have this gift? Take your shoes off. Show your bare feet to your neighbor. If they are so beautiful you could be foot model, you might have this gift!

What is the gift of Apostles? It's a good question. Prophets prophesy, those with the gift of helping... help. Evangelists... evangelize. And apostles apostle?

It's a pretty good study because it's somewhat ambiguous and challenges our need to put things in a box.

Do apostles exist today?

"So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. Acts 1:21-23

Prescriptive or descriptive.

And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Revelation 21:14

BUT, others including Barnabas, Timothy, Silas, all called apostles. Some would say capital "A" apostles and little "a" apostles.

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, Ephesians 4:11-12

And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. 1 Corinthians 12:28

What is an apostle? Missionaries and Church Planters.

It's listed as gift but more of a calling. The word means "special messenger".

John and Eriko Houlette. Our missionaries in Asia. They help plant churches, follow up with them and look after their health and doctrine. Disciple people who disciple others, establish outreaches, put on seminars, all for the building up of the body of Christ!

Pacific Church Network, We have been a part of 14 church plants in the last 6 years. Including the re-plant of Calvary Baptist right here in Santa Barbara!

What is an evangelist? Someone who “the Holy Spirit manifests his presence and imparts his power into and through individual believers to enable them to exceed the limitations of their finite humanity so that they might faithfully and effectively” shares the good news.

I have moved in both gifts.

Evangelism.

Church Planting.

How do you know if you have this gift? Jump in. Start telling friends about Jesus. Come on mission with us. We desire to be a healthy church planting church! Help us grow in width and depth, and be a part of church planting up and down the central coast!

How beautiful are the feet who share the good news!

Communion.