

Week of June 24-30

SWEET FEET

Scripture Reading: Read Romans chapter 10

I once had a roommate in college whose feet were anything but sweet! When he took his shoes off, the entire room was permeated with the smell of stinky feet! Fortunately, he ended up moving to another room mid-semester and my nasal passages rejoiced with thanksgiving. Although my roommate and I separated dorm rooms, we did remain friends and we're still in touch with each other today via Facebook.

Having smelly feet physically can be a pain. Having smelly feet spiritually can be a disaster. Spiritually smelly feet? What's that? It's a phrase I've coined based on Romans chapter 10.

In this chapter, Paul lays out the way of salvation by declaring, *"...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."* He adds a few verses later that *"everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."* It's wonderful news, isn't it? Anyone who calls on the Lord will be saved. Salvation is available to all!

There's just one catch, though, according to Paul. *"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? And how can they preach unless they are sent?"* Bottom line, someone needs to share the gospel. Those who do proclaim Christ are described by Paul like this, *"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"* Did you catch that? Those who share the good news of the gospel have beautiful feet. Their feet are sweet!

If sharing the gospel with others means I have sweet feet, though, what do you think it means, then, if I keep the gospel to myself? Yup, you guessed it. It means I have spiritually smelly feet and this is not God's will for us.

We are called to be proclaimers of the good news. The Great Commission to go and make disciples of all nations is a church commission and not just a pastor's commission. In other words, we are all supposed to have sweet feet. In addition, when we share the gospel with folks, we are spreading the fragrance of Christ according to Paul in 2 Corinthians 2:14: *"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing."*

So, you see, when we share Christ with others, our feet smell sweet and we are sharing His aroma with others. It sure beats spiritually smelly feet, now, doesn't it?

Action Step & Prayer Focus: "Smell" your feet today. Are they sweet or stinky? If they're sweet, then you're a good news teller. If they stink, it's time to repent and ask the Lord to both empower you and open doors for you to share the good news of Christ today.

Take-a-way: *Sweet feet belong to those who share the good news of the gospel.*