October 28 | Sunday

The Hour That Changes Everything: Becoming Beautiful Read Joel 2:23-32 / Psalm 96



29 | Mon – Defining beautiful | Read Zechariah 9:16-17

How would you define the word *beautiful*? Many connect this word to a person's physical appearance or to something observed in nature. Others think of it as an inner quality. One dictionary definition of *beautiful* includes words like *appealing*, *delightful*, *radiant*, *fascinating*, *magnificent*, *stunning*, *wonderful*, *marvelous*, *captivating*, *engaging*, *resplendent*, *winsome*, and *dazzling*. Do any of these words apply to you? To people you know? To God?

30 | Tue – A beautiful God | Read Psalm 36:5-10 / Ezekiel 1:25-28

King David spent his lifetime pursuing a relationship with the living God. Frequently in the psalms, David described this God he had come to know and love. Psalm 36 is one example. Ezekiel also had an encounter with God as described in Ezekiel 1. What qualities do you see in each man's description? Does either perspective cause you see God a little differently? Which of God's characteristics would you call *beautiful*?

31 | Wed – A beautiful sacrifice | Read Matthew 26:7-10

Do you have a valuable possession that is precious to you? This woman did. It may have been the most expensive thing she owned. It may have represented financial security for the future. Yet she poured it out as a gift because of her great love for Jesus. Some judged that she had wasted it but the Lord saw her heart and called this sacrifice 'a beautiful thing.' It might cost you something but what beautiful thing can you do for someone this week?

01 | Thu – A beautiful church | Read Acts 2:44-46 and 4:32-35

The early church was about as diverse as you can imagine - young and old, rich and poor, some highly educated and others illiterate, different races and all different kinds of professions, but they had one thing in common...they had met Jesus. Did they have issues to work out? Of course! But their most outstanding characteristic was how they loved God and others, and demonstrated that by the way they lived. What is your church known for? And as a part of that church, does your everyday life demonstrate this quality?

02 | Fri – Beautiful feet | Read Isaiah 52:7

Do you consider your feet as your most beautiful feature? This scripture was written in a time when most people walked everywhere. Footwear was minimal and, consequently, their feet would become calloused, dirty, unsightly...unless you were rich, of course. What does God say makes feet beautiful? How could you use your feet in a beautiful way? What 'good news' can you give today to someone who might desperately need to hear it?

03 | Sat – A beautiful exchange | Read <u>Isaiah 61:3</u>

Life is full of beautiful things, when you are paying attention. But life can also be filled with fiery experiences that reduce your accomplishments, dreams, relationships, and maybe even your possessions, to ashes. It could be a result of something you did or didn't do. Or it might be something that just randomly happened. No matter what, this is promise is for you. Do you believe God is powerful enough to bring beauty out of *your* 'ashes'?

