

BEAUTY

Talk about.....*beauty*

1. What kind of things would you describe as beautiful?
2. What is it about some people that leads others to describe them as beautiful?
3. A person once said, "Beauty is only skin deep." What does that mean? Do you agree?
4. Another person once said, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder." What does that mean? Do you agree?
5. Do you think "ugly" people can become "beautiful?" Do you think "beautiful" people can become "ugly?" If so, how can that happen?
6. When *God* "beholds" us, what do you think he sees? someone beautiful, or someone ugly? Why do you think so?

What does the Bible say about.....*beauty*?

1. "So God created man...male and female he created them...God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." (Genesis 1:27, 31, NIV)

When God created the first people (Adam and Eve), were they ugly or beautiful?

2. "The snake was more clever than all the wild animals the LORD God had made. He asked the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must never eat the fruit of any tree in the garden?'" The woman answered the snake, "We're allowed to eat the fruit from any tree in the garden except the tree in the middle of the garden. God said, 'You must never eat it or touch it. If you do, you will die!'" "You certainly won't die!" the serpent told the woman. "God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened. You'll be like God, knowing good and evil." The woman saw that the tree had fruit that was good to eat, nice to look at, and desirable for making someone wise. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then their eyes were opened, and they realized that they were naked. They sewed fig leaves together and made clothes for themselves." (Genesis 3:1-7, God's Word)
 - a. What did Eve and Adam do that was wrong?
 - b. After they ate the "forbidden fruit" they "realized they were naked [and] sewed fig leaves together and made clothes for themselves." What do you think it means that "they realized they were naked"?
 - c. Why do you think they felt it necessary to make clothes for themselves?
 - d. After Eve and Adam ate the forbidden fruit, was the beautiful world God created still beautiful? Why or why not?
3. "I will find joy in the LORD. I will delight in my God. He has dressed me in the clothes of salvation. He has wrapped me in the robe of righteousness like a bridegroom with a priest's turban, like a bride with her jewels." (Isaiah 61:10, God's Word)
 - a. Although we are ugly because of our sin, what does this Bible verse say that God has done for us?
 - b. What does that mean?
 - c. How did God do that for us?
 - d. When God looks at us now, are we ugly or beautiful?