



Discussion Guide for “Beautiful”

Don't Go There! Week 4

Our culture has a particular definition of what counts as beautiful, a carefully constructed image into which nearly no body fits. Much as in the days of the early church, the powers that be have a vested interest in controlling our bodies. When Peter and John heal a lame man in Acts, the Jerusalem establishment reacts with fear and violence. When we learn why this healing was such a threat, we find a vision for a Church that embraces bodies of all shapes, sizes, color, and more.

Scriptures for Further Reading

[Genesis 1:26-27](#)

[Psalm 23](#)

[John 10:11-18](#)

[Acts 4:5-12](#)

[1 John 3:16-24](#)

Questions for Discussion

1. Did the statistics about body image surprise you? Do they reflect how you feel about your own body?
2. Why is having a body so messy? What frustrates you about your own body?
3. Why was Peter's healing of the lame man such a threat to the Jerusalem establishment? What was at stake for them?
4. Why is a Church that embraces all bodies a threat to the powers of our world?
5. What does it look like for you to embrace and to be embraced this week?