

**Communion Meditation – The Suffering Servant**  
*Isaiah 53.2          Ordinary          July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011*

**From Remarkable (52.15) to Ignored (53.1) to Ordinary (53.2)**

**v2a ~ “He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant”**

- Jesus grew up just as all other earthly children
- Though His birth was heralded by angels – it was in a desolate field
- Plants grow noiselessly, miraculously but without fanfare

**v2b ~ “as a root out of the dry ground”**

- Jesus grew up in Galilee (*a town without respect – Nazareth*)
- An area despised and unappreciated (*like mill cities in US*)
  - III: Good Morning Vietnam – “**Cleveland. Vietnam isn’t much of a change**”
- He was the son of a carpenter (*but don’t think of beautiful cabinetry*)

**v2c ~ “He has no form or comeliness”**

- Jesus was a plain man / But we don’t like to think that
- Famous people are not usually plain
  - And those that are often work hard to overcome it

**v2d ~ “There is no beauty that we should desire Him”**

- Beautiful people are popular / This is true the world over
  - III: Napoleon Dynamite – “**only the popular people smiled**”
- But Jesus was not a beautiful person (*not outwardly at least*)
  - But as is said, “*beauty is more than skin deep*”
    - Jesus was the embodiment of beauty (*holiness, goodness, love*)
  - But we tend to judge by outward appearances
  - Samuel believed Jesse’s son Eliab was to be king
    - Eliab was handsome and tall ~ Samuel forgot Saul had same traits

**The miraculous work of Christ was not done for the popular people of the earth  
It was done for the everyday people**

**Paul said, “not many of you were wise or powerful”**

**God chose the foolish and the weak, the lowly and the despised ~ God chose me**