



## Blue Suede Shoes

### Refreshments

Ask the women to prepare lunches for every member of her family who will be in attendance. These should be attractively arranged in shoeboxes. Number the boxes and then write the same numbers on slips of paper to be drawn by the participants to determine which lunch they will enjoy. Prepare a couple of extra lunches for those who forget to bring one. To use this as a fundraiser, have the participants bid on the box lunches.

### Activities and Games

These activities and games should be played in family groups or by tables.

#### *My Favorite Shoes*

Instruct everyone to wear his or her favorite shoes to the festivities. Ask them to share why these shoes are their favorite, where they got them and how old they are.

#### *Whose Feet are These?*

Choose a number of people to stand behind a curtain with only their feet showing, without their socks and shoes. Pin a number on the curtain above the feet. The winning group is the one who can identify the most feet.

#### *Find the Shoes*

From red and white construction paper cut out the outline of shoes or feet. Hide them around the room. When the hunt is over, the shoes are counted. At that point they are told that the red shoes are worth 5 points, but the white shoes count as 2 points against them.

#### *Sandals in the Bible*

✿ What group of people were told to eat a meal with their sandals on their feet and why were they so instructed? **(The children of Israel, so that they could leave Egypt quickly. Exodus 12:11)**

✿ Who tried to trick Joshua into making a treaty with them by wearing old clothes and patched sandals? **(The people of Gibeon. Joshua 9:3–13)**

✿ An angel said, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” To whom was he speaking and where was that person at that time? **(He spoke to Peter, who was in prison. Acts 12:8)**

✿ Who said that there was someone coming whose sandals he would not

be fit to carry and of whom was he speaking? **(John the Baptist said it about Jesus. Matthew 3:11)**

✿ Who said, “Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road,” and what was the occasion? **(Jesus said this to the seventy-two messengers that He sent out to spread the gospel. Luke 10:4)**

✿ Who told his servant to “Bring the best robe ... put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet,” and what was the occasion? **(The father of the Prodigal Son when his son returned home. Luke 15:22)**

✿ Whose clothes and sandals did not wear out for 40 years? **(The children of Israel, during their wandering in the wilderness. Deuteronomy 8:11)**

✿ Who was told, “Take no bag for the journey, or extra tunic, or sandals or a

staff: for the worker is worth his keep,” and what was the occasion? **(Jesus told the twelve disciples this when He sent them out to preach the message that the kingdom of heaven was at hand. Matthew 10:10)**

✿ Who was told to take off his sandals because he was standing on holy ground? **(Moses. Exodus 3:5)**

### Fundraiser

Most of us have shoes in our closet that felt great in the store, but when we got them home didn't fit. Ask the women to bring these shoes to the meeting. You will want to emphasize that these should be in good condition, possibly only worn once or twice. Place them on a table with the size of the shoe and a suggested price. If more than one person wants the shoes, they would go to the highest bidder.

## Wash My Feet?

*On a table place different types of shoes—baby shoes, tennis shoes, hiking boots, work boots, ballet slippers, fancy high-heels, sandals, uniform shoes, slippers. Ask the children to tell you who would wear these shoes and what they would be doing when they wear them.*

Most of us have probably worn a good number of these different types of shoes at some time—maybe not the ballet slippers or the work boots. If you're like me, you have a closet full of shoes. You need one type of shoe if you are going to be doing a lot of walking. You need brown shoes for some outfits, black shoes to wear with your uniform, boots for the winter and sandals for the summer.

When Jesus was on earth, people didn't have a variety of shoes. They wore sandals or went barefoot. The weather was temperate, the roads were dusty and dirty, so sandals were the most practical type of footwear.

Just before Jesus went to the cross, He celebrated Passover with His disciples. Listen to what happened before they participated in that feast. *Read John 13:1–17.*

Jesus showed His servant attitude to His disciples. Washing guests' feet was a job for a household servant to carry out when guests arrived. But Jesus wrapped a towel around His waist, as the lowliest slave would do, and washed and dried His disciples' feet. If you had been there, how would you have felt? Would you have been like Peter and said, “No!” Imagine being Peter and watching Jesus wash the others' feet, all the while moving closer to you. Seeing Him acting like a slave must have been very confusing. Peter didn't understand Jesus' teaching that to be a leader, a person must be a servant.

Are you willing to follow Christ's example of serving? Whom can you serve today? There is a special blessing for those who not only agree that humble service is what we should do as Christians, but who also follow through and do it.