

A Brand New You
Ephesians 6:15

“and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.”

Read: *Ephesians 6:10-15*

Getting Started:

- 1) Flip Flops, Slippers, Sneakers or _____? Argue your case.
- 2) Name different kinds of shoes designed for different jobs or activities?

Digging Deeper:

3) Paul seems to be alluding to Isaiah 52:3-7. Read the passage and compare it with the other place Paul cites it (Romans 10:14-15). In light of these passages, what do you think Paul is saying in Ephesians 6:15? Try putting it in your own words.

4) In the ancient world, the word “gospel” (*the evangel*) sometimes referred to the good news that some horrible war was over. It was communicated through a messenger (*an evangelist*) who made his way as quickly as he could through dangerous lands to deliver the message.

- a) What might make this kind of news time-sensitive?
 - b) Why were good shoes necessary?
 - c) How would the mission be dangerous?
 - d) How is this like the believer shoed with the gospel of peace?
- 5) Every believer is shoed with the “readiness” to share the gospel with people.
- a) What reasons do Christians give for not being ready?
 - b) How would you respond to these reasons?
 - c) What do you struggle with the most in sharing your faith?
 - d) Is that reluctance just a “flesh and blood” struggle? Why or why not?
- 6) Here are some tips reminders to help you get over your fears: *Remind yourself that...*
- The power of the message is greater than all of your weaknesses as the messenger. Discuss.
 - The worst you’ll probably experience is awkwardness. Other Christians have suffered far worse sharing Christ. Discuss.
 - You start with questions rather than statements.

When someone brings up a topic that is spiritual, don't start out declaring, "*your wrong and here's the truth!*" Instead, ask questions like, *that's really interesting, what do you mean by that? And how did you come to that conclusion?* If God provides an opportunity, share the truth in a humble way. Discuss why is this better than just making statements, and spend some time thinking of some possible conversations situations.

- People are very receptive to an invitation to church. Become an inviter!

Making It Real:

Pray and be on the look out for those spiritual conversations. Ask God for courage to share Christ.