



Guides My Feet

Beautiful Feet! Feet are wonderful yet funny things. Have you ever been walking along barefoot and stubbed a toe? When that happens, you can't help but think that there is not much in life that is more painful. Or have you ever had a stone in your shoe? It might as well be a large rock, for the smallest of stones can dig deep into the sole of a foot and prevent any walking.

We seldom give our feet a second thought – except, of course, when they are painful or troublesome or our shoes don't fit; then they demand our whole attention.

Feet are also amazing because they come in so many different sizes and shapes. Feet are so individualized that some people cannot just walk into a store, try on a pair of shoes and buy them. They must have special work done on their shoes to ensure a good fit. There are many stores that sell shoes for these varied and unique feet.

In Jesus' day, feet were the primary means of transportation for the majority of the people. Riding an animal was reserved for the rich or honorable. Therefore, people who had trouble with their feet also had trouble with much of life. When one stops to think about life today, this last point is also true.

Consider your life. How do you get to where you need to go? Most people use a car as part of, if not all of, their transportation process. Maybe you no longer drive or maybe you prefer not to when you can use alternative means (bus, cab, or bike).

Now let's think about when Jesus washed His disciples' feet on the night in which He was betrayed. Remember that these disciples walked a lot. The Judean roads were dusty and dirty. So washing feet was a necessary though unpleasant duty that needed to be done. The task of washing feet was usually left to the lowliest of servants. And yet our Savior humbled Himself and served His helpers.

Jesus did not stop with mere physical washing of feet. He served by walking the dusty, dirty roads of life Himself without straying in the muck of sin. His feet stumbled as He walked to the cross. He allowed His feet to be nailed to the cross, which is infinitely more painful than any stubbed toe or stone digging into the sole of a foot. Yet He endured this pain – not for His sins, but for ours. Through Baptism, He served you and washed your soul clean of sin.

Just like our feet, we all come in different shapes and sizes. We all have been given the simple command by Jesus to "Go" or "Walk" and make disciples. We are now the vehicle for the Gospel. We motor it to those who do not know. Even if we ourselves cannot walk on our feet, we remain the messengers for the souls who suffer. By our walking on paths of righteousness and speaking gentle words of witness, we bring people to Jesus, the most beautiful Savior.

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. (1 Peter 2:21 ESV)