

## Tire Sandals, Clogs, and the Great Commission

Matthew 28:19

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”*



### Theme

Missionaries are sent out from and go to many different countries in the world to tell people about Jesus.

### Preparation

- Copy and cut into thirds the page with the sandals and the verse on them. Take along one sandal for each child when giving the message.
- Bring the different types of shoes to show the kids or any others you can get information about. (If using others, substitute the information into the script.)

### Message

I have a question for you. Have you ever worn a tire on your feet? Kids in a country in Africa called Nigeria have. Some people in Nigeria make sandals out of old tires that have been thrown out in the trash. Kids wear them to school, to play, to work on their farms, and all over the place.

In Japan kids wear sandals made out of wood. These are called clogs and make a “clack-clack” sound when they walk.

In Canada and Alaska Inuit or Eskimo children wear boots called mukluks. These keep their feet warm. In the olden days mukluks were made out of sealskin and whale muscles [actually sinew or tendons].

What kinds of shoes do American [or Canadian] children like to wear? We like to wear lots of different kinds of shoes don't we? There are hundreds of different brands and styles and colors and types to choose from.

[Optional]

Let's find out what kinds of shoes we're all wearing today. Look at the bottom of your shoes [or take one shoe off] and see what kind you're wearing. [Ask the kids individually or read the brand for them.]

There are lots of different kinds of shoes and boots and sandals and slippers worn by different people all around the world, aren't there? They can be made out of lots of different things, like cow leather, plastic, rubber, wood, or even metal. They all help to protect our feet and to help us get where we want to go.

Did you know that shoes help missionaries get where they want to go too? There's a verse in the Bible found in Matthew 28:19 that says, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Missionaries go all over the world to tell people about Jesus. What kinds of shoes do you think missionaries wear? All different kinds. Because missionaries can go from many different nations or countries in the world to tell people about Jesus. Can missionaries go from the United States [or Canada] to tell people in Nigeria about Jesus? Yes they can. Can they go from Nigeria to other countries in the world? Of course. Can they go from Nigeria to the United States? Sure. Missionaries wear all different kinds of shoes because they go from lots of different countries to make disciples of all the countries or nations of the world. Let's pray.

### **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us shoes and clothes and food and everything that we need. But most of all, thank you for giving us Jesus and for taking our sins away through him. We pray for missionaries who take that message to people all around the world. Use them to bring many people to faith in Jesus. And help us to be missionaries and tell people about Jesus whenever we can. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Hand Out**

Before you go, I'd like to give you a sandal with Matthew 28:19 on it. You can put this on your refrigerator or on the wall of your bedroom to remind you to pray for missionaries all over the world. Will you do that? Will you remember to pray for missionaries all over the world? [Distribute sandals.]

[Note: Text in brackets is not meant to be verbalized.]