

Registered Charity No 251394

October 2020

Footsteps in the Sand



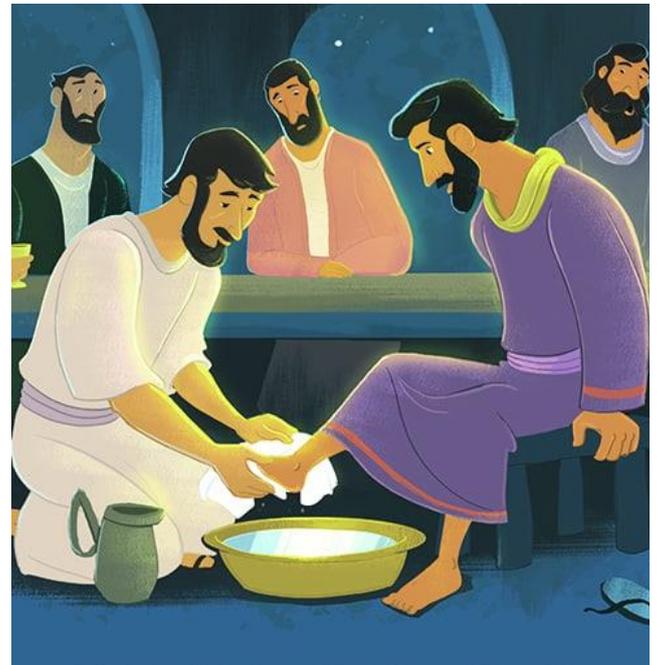
I don't suppose many of us have had a chance to go and make footprints in the sand at the seaside this year. But perhaps in other years you have chased across the sand and then looked back to see the tracks you made. Were you wearing shoes or were they the prints of your bare feet?

But I wonder what sort of tracks Jesus would have left in the mud or sand when he walked along the shore of Lake Galilee, inviting the fishermen to follow him. And they did. Left everything to follow in Jesus' footsteps.



I guess his sandals would have been simple like these – just enough to give a bit of protection, but they were no protection from heavy rain, or the bitter cold of winter. Like many people in the world today, he would not have been able to buy better shoes, and there are children who still have no shoes at all.

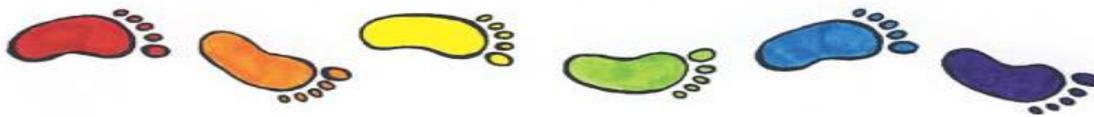
Have you ever thought about how important feet have been in the spreading of the Gospel? Jesus walked everywhere teaching the people, Paul covered most of his missionary journeys on foot, our two saints this month would have walked through Italy to France. And most people would have had open sandals so feet would have got very dusty, which is why it was usual to have a servant to wash the feet of guests. There was that time though when Jesus called his friends together for an important meal and there was no servant, so Jesus himself took the role of the servant and washed the feet of his friends, showing that no one is too important to carry out humble tasks for others.



Do you have some wellington boots to wear in the rain? And do you like to splash in the puddles? I wonder what a wellington boot print would be like?

Every type of shoe will leave a different imprint.

Craft Activity Make a frieze of all the shapes of your different shoes by drawing round them on sheets of paper then colour them in, perhaps add flowers. Make sure first that they are clean on the bottom! Then see if your family can identify which shoe made which print.



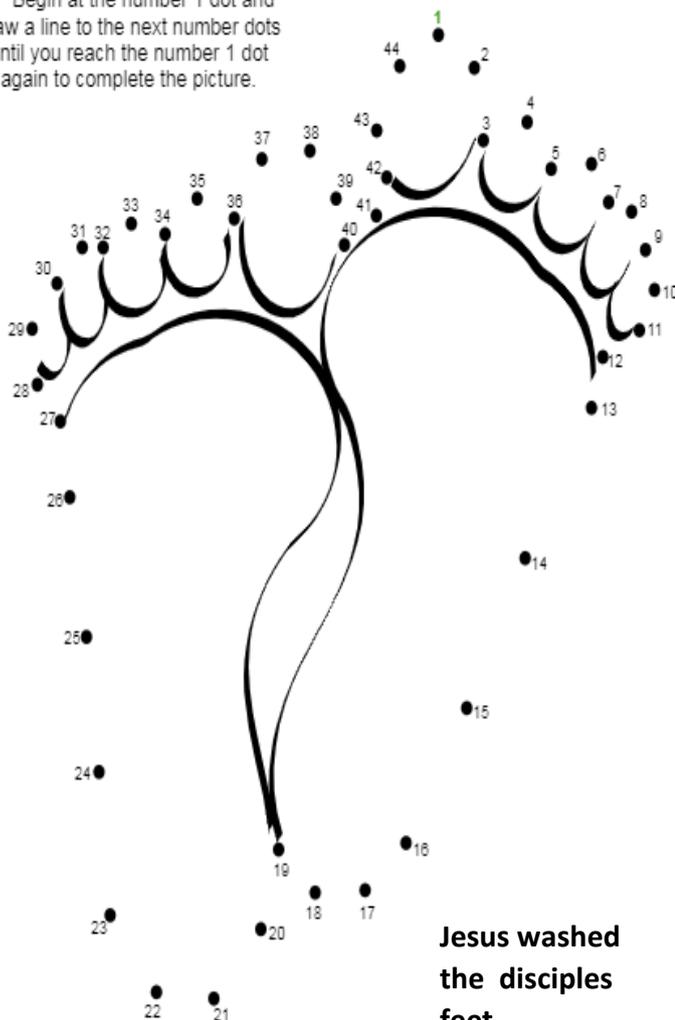
Do you ever think much about how shoes are made? There is a patron saint of Shoemakers, in fact a pair of them, St Crispin and St Crispianus. They were Italian twin brothers who were shoemakers who believed in Jesus at a time when it was dangerous to do so. When it became too dangerous to stay in Rome, they made their way through Italy and into France, teaching the people they met about Jesus. They wanted to pay their way so whenever they stopped to preach to the people, they would buy leather from a local tannery, make some shoes and sell them to those who could afford them, but give them away free to the poor. Unfortunately, the Roman Governor of the area hated Christians and one day in 205 his soldiers caught up with them and killed them. They are remembered on 25th October.



There are so many different types of shoes today but who made the first ones? We know that 40,000 years ago people made protection for their feet, from fur wrapped around them in the arctic regions, to palm leaves bound beneath the foot in the hot parts of the world.

Connect the Dots

Begin at the number 1 dot and draw a line to the next number dots until you reach the number 1 dot again to complete the picture.



Jesus washed the disciples feet

Match the words to the pictures. The first one is done for you.

	<input type="checkbox"/> flipflops	
	<input type="checkbox"/> high heels	
	<input type="checkbox"/> boots	
	<input type="checkbox"/> clogs	
	<input type="checkbox"/> roller skates	
	<input type="checkbox"/> sandals	
	<input type="checkbox"/> trainers	
	<input type="checkbox"/> slippers	
	<input type="checkbox"/> socks	
	<input type="checkbox"/> moccasins	
	<input type="checkbox"/> shoes	
	<input type="checkbox"/> ice skates	