

# t<sub>he</sub> Chalkboard

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## Beautiful Feet

God created man from “the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul” (Gen. 2:7). As God shaped and formed his creation, He gave it many members, each with a significant purpose. God created man with eyes to see, ears to hear, a mouth to speak, and feet to walk. He placed each member in the body just as “it pleased him” (1 Cor. 12:18). Our bodies are “fearfully and wonderfully made” (Psa. 139:14). Even those parts which seem less comely or insignificant have an important function to perform. Let’s take a closer look at a useful member in particular – our feet.

Feet supply the body with a good foundation. God gave each of us a pair of feet which work together like a platform to balance the weight of the entire body. Moreover, the body achieves basic locomotion by using its feet. As a child develops, he learns to sit, crawl, stand, walk, and then run. Thus, our feet transport us successfully from one place to another. They can carry us through soft grass, over jagged rocks, or on hot pavement. Clearly, feet are vital to the body.

However, without these useful members, we cannot stand and be mobile. Man has resorted to the use of crutches or canes when he has an inability to use both feet. Modern inventors have created prosthetic limbs for individuals who have damaged or lost their feet. Without these useful members functioning properly, some individuals must resort to using walkers or wheel chairs in order to move around freely. Without question, feet are indispensable.

Because of their practical purpose, most people do not think of feet as being beautiful. When I was in middle school, my feet grew disproportionately to the rest of my body. I was very discouraged with these huge, ugly members. My father consistently reassured me that my large feet would be necessary someday. As I grew taller, I eventually needed a pair of size ten feet to support the height of my frame.

No matter how large or unsightly our feet may be, they can become beautiful in the Lord. In the book of Romans, the writer says, “How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good

things” (Romans 10:15). My feet become lovely when they carry me to proclaim the Good News message of Jesus to those who are hurting and in need. In this electronic age, many people are satisfied by reaching out to others through multiple forms of social media. With our busy lives, these modern conveniences can be useful tools for outreach, but they can never replace our going in person. If I am sick in the hospital, do not text me. Come and pray for me. When I am in a nursing home alone and forgotten, do not e-mail me. Visit me with a smile and word of encouragement. If I live in your neighborhood, do not send me a letter. Stop and invite me to church. Jesus told his disciples, “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me” (Matthew 25:40). When Jesus was returning to heaven, he commissioned each of us saying; “Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). Our beautiful, wonderful feet give us this ability. So slip on your Sunday loafers or tie on your tennis shoes, we have places to go and people to see. Go with the Good News!

### Ideas to Illuminate

**Outreach Team:** Inspire the children in your local ministry to reach out to those in need. Take them to visit new families in your community or the elderly in a nursing home.

**On the Go Game:** Trace each child’s feet on red or green paper and cut them out. Tape the shapes to the floor. Allow the children to walk around stepping on the shapes while music is played. Stop the music. Students standing on a red shape must recite a memory verse. Those on a green shape must tell a way to help someone in need.

**Beautiful Feet Craft:** Allow students to trace around one another’s feet onto paper. Underneath the tracing, have her write ways she can share the Gospel with others. Hang them on the wall for a classroom display.

Cheryl H. McDonald, International Children’s Ministries Director  
P. O. Box 2398  
Cleveland, TN 37320  
423-476-3337  
childrensministries@zionassemblychurchofgod.com

