

LETTER TO LEADERS

By

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New Shoes

Growing up, each Easter I got a new pair of Sunday shoes. The old Sunday shoes became my everyday shoes. The old everyday shoes, too small and worn out, were discarded.

Mary's New Shoes

On that first Easter, Mary and other disciples came to the tomb with shoes of grief and disappointment to finish embalming the body of Jesus. Finding the empty tomb, the disciples left with shoes of despair and confusion. Mary stayed, shopping for a new pair of shoes; shoes of understanding and closure. Jesus appeared and Mary was surprised with a new pair of shoes of hope and joy. With these running shoes, she ran back to the upper room to proclaim the good news. Jesus lives.

Cleopas' New Shoes

Cleopas and his friend, in their walking shoes, were on the road to Emmaus when Jesus joined with them. They had on shoes of confusion and disappointment. Then Jesus broke the bread, and their eyes were opened; it was Jesus. They put on their new running shoes of hope and joy to run back to Jerusalem and share the good news with the disciples.

Disciples New Shoes

The disciples met Mary and Cleopas with shoes of scorn and unbelief, until Jesus appeared. Suddenly they all had new shoes of hope and joy like Mary's and Cleopas' shoes. Immediately Jesus "shod their feet with the Gospel of peace" by speaking peace to them all.

Thomas' New Shoes

Thomas was not there that first night (maybe his feet were hurting, ha). He declared he would not believe unless he saw the scars in Jesus' hand and put his hand unto Jesus side. He surely had shoes of unbelief. Then Jesus appeared and asked Thomas to put his finger in His nail scars and his hand in His side. Suddenly Thomas had new shoes of faith (that came by seeing).

New Shoes of Power

On the day of Pentecost, 120 were waiting in obedience, when the Holy Spirit fell on them and they all began to speak in tongues. They all received new shoes of “power when the Holy Ghost came upon them.”

Easter New Shoes

This Easter Sunday, we all have a new pair of shoes coming to us from Jesus; Shoes of power, faith, hope and joy. These are running shoes, walking shoes, work shoes (with steel toes to protect us). Walk into church as you walked when your parents put a new pair of shoes on you. Put on the new man who after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

In His Love,

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