

Momentum/Friction

Module: Run With It

Lesson I: In His Shoes

Objectives:

- Students will define what a servant is.
- Students will correlate serving with submissiveness and obedience.
- Students will see how Jesus related to his disciples as servant.

Materials Needed:

- ☐ a pack of Oreos (Leader's note: Be aware of students with nut allergies.)
- ☐ blackboard/whiteboard/chart paper, markers
- ☐ covering for the ground (in case of mess)
- ☐ a bowl of water and soap with a cloth
- ☐ a dirty shoe
- ☐ Bible per student

Minds On

Start by playing the Oreo Game. To play, separate an Oreo into two halves with one side holding the cream. Then stick the Oreo to the middle of your forehead. The goal is to guide the Oreo into your mouth without using your hands. Moving your head in any direction and using any facial movement is allowed. A good idea is to do this over a table or a sheet on the ground for the eventual 'miss' and the Oreo hits the ground.

As a possible extension, you might consider complicating the game. This can be accomplished by having students complete the activity as pairs. Pairs may begin by sticking the Oreo cookies to their heads, as detailed above. Next have one student give an instruction to the other. Examples of suitable instructions might include pick up a pencil, crab walk, or spin in a circle. The idea is to be able to complete the given tasks with the Oreo still on their heads. Switch up the caller once the Oreo has fallen off or 5 activities have been accomplished with the Oreo still firmly stuck.

Action

Ask your group to define the term 'servant'. Expect answers that vary widely, ranging from a queen's servant, to a slave, to a government official. If students are having difficulty, tell them to think in terms of a butler/waiter/waitress. The idea here is to gather thoughts about submissiveness and obedience. You may wish to record their thoughts on a blackboard, whiteboard or chart paper.

Have everyone get out their Bibles, and pick 1-3 students to read out John 13:12-17. Say something like: *Just think of their feet. These guys walked everywhere and were often walking long distances. Plus they most likely wore sandals and always walked in dusty conditions. Their feet would be covered in grim and caked on dust. Yet Jesus was willing to wash their feet.*

After the scripture reading, ask for a volunteer with a good sense of humor. Some may think you want to wash their feet so they may hesitate. Bring out a bowl with water and a cloth, and have them wash a dirty pair of shoes while you talk about the disciples' feet.

Have the youth break up into two groups (more if your group size demands it) and discuss/brainstorm ideas on what Jesus was trying to teach the disciples in washing their feet. Ask students to consider, 'who usually would do this kind of work?', or 'why did Jesus choose to do this?'. The objective here is to have the students see how Jesus served and related to others. Ask students what they think it would feel like to be a disciple, or what the disciples were thinking when Jesus said that they should do as he did. Bring the groups back together.

Consolidate/Debrief

Ask students how Jesus is asking them to serve others. As students respond, try to connect the ensuing discussion with the first conversation about butlers and waitresses (servants) and washing feet.

Say something like: *Jesus gave us the example of humbling oneself to help others no matter what the social standing. It's important for us to follow Jesus' lead.*

Challenge students to follow up with their ideas of serving others over the next week and put their ideas into action.

Close in prayer.