



### Walk in their shoes- High Heels

#### Welcome-

Have a chat in your group and ask, 'What are the most uncomfortable shoes you've ever owned? What lengths did you go to to try and make them work?'

#### Word-

On Sunday we looked at the story of the woman at the well and her significant, face to face encounter with Jesus. This was also a significant place for Jacob's face to face encounter with God. Do you have any significant locations where you remember God has drastically impacted your life?

On Sunday we talked about the different techniques that people will use to try to put off the inevitable moment when painful shoes need to be taken off. What are some of the techniques, or things that we might do, to put off dealing with some of the painful issues that might affect our life or our walk? What does this look like for you?

#### Read John 4:3-20

Many people believe that the woman in this passage found herself at the well at noon because she was avoiding a moment of encounter with others, the moment 'when the heels come off'. Here she met with Jesus face to face.

- How easy do you find it being vulnerable with others or being vulnerable with Jesus?
- Why do so many people find vulnerability so difficult?
- How do you think vulnerability is viewed in church and what are your experiences of it?

On your own, have a glance through Genesis 32&33. In Genesis 33:19, this is where people believe the well was built.

- What similarities do you see in the face to face encounters of both the woman at the well and Jacob with the Angel?
- In what ways do you think it was significant that this well was their place of meeting?
- What might God want us to learn about our own face to face encounters with God?

#### Read John 4:25-30

After the woman's face to face encounter with Jesus and that moment of real vulnerability about her past and her issues, Jesus turns her walk around and her issue of *avoiding others* becomes directly *engaging others* so that they might know Jesus.

- Have you had moments in your life where the things that made your walk difficult were the exact things that God then went on to use to set others free?
- Are there things in your life now, or in your past, that you would love God to use to set other people free?

#### Prayer-

As a group spend some time in silence and ask God what it might look like for Him to walk in your shoes and allow the places where your shoes have rubbed to help others. Ask God to bring to each person's mind someone that they might be able to walk alongside this week, in order to introduce them to Jesus to help set them free. Now pray for one another in 2's or 3's.