



EFCA
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Greetings!

This year's VBS project is called "**Shoe Me**" and is an opportunity to buy shoes for orphans in Congo. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 to buy 2,500 pairs of shoes. Please consider giving your VBS offering to provide the needed shoes.

In the U.S. having shoes is pretty much a given. This is not the case for kids in Congo. Most children wear flip flops that are often broken and sewn back together. Sometimes the soles are totally worn down and are too big or too small. But kids wear what they have, and shoes don't get thrown away until there is nothing left. **Just \$10 will buy a brand new pair of shoes for a child in Congo.**



Since they often walk 8-10 miles a day, having good shoes is critically important. Walking is a child's means of transportation – there are no cars. School is ½ to 3 miles away. The market is 1-2 miles away. Children are sent everywhere with messages and deliveries. They walk to church. They walk to the water source to fetch water and carry the bucket back on their heads. They walk to the forest to find fire wood.

In Congo, many girls and boys have lost almost everything. Through GlobalFingerprints they can go to school and to the doctor when they are sick. When we give to someone in need, the Bible tells us that we are actually giving to the Lord God. Proverbs 19:17 states, "If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord – and He will repay you!"

In Matthew 25:31-45 we read that Jesus told His followers when they visit someone in prison, they are actually visiting Him. When they give someone clothes or shoes, they are giving them to Him! When they take care of someone who is sick, they are caring for Him! Jesus says, in verse 40, "I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!"

When you **choose** to use your money for **shoes** for an orphan in Congo, you **choose** to give **Jesus shoes**!

More information about the GlobalFingerprints child sponsorship program can be found online at www.globalfingerprints.org. We also have a four-minute DVD available telling about GlobalFingerprints from the perspective of one of the orphans in the program. You can request the DVD by emailing globalfingerprints@efca.org. Please call or email us if you have questions about this summer's important VBS program.

May God bless your 2009 VBS!

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VBS Offerings can be made out to the EFCA and sent to
EFCA, 901 East 78th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55420.
Please put "21709-3996 – GlobalFingerprints VBS" in the memo line.