

Use “The Scene” to introduce “How Can I Help?” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for August 13, 2017. The lesson is found on page 69 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.



For decades, CES (the Consumer Electronics Show) has been the place where the latest, cutting-edge technology has made its debut. Everything from the VCR (1970) to virtual reality systems (2015) have been revealed for the first time to the world at CES.

But every year, there are also some innovations that can make a person wonder. As in, wonder why in the world someone would want that thing, or wonder how in the world any normal person could ever pay for such a thing!

This year’s show included these gems:

- a hundred-dollar Bluetooth, app-enabled toaster
- a smart fridge with a front door that turns transparent so you can see inside without letting cold air out
- smart shoes that assess how far you will be able to run that day (in case you wake up one morning thinking you can go from couch to 5k in one hour)

Shoes must have been a popular gadget for inventors this year. CES also featured virtual shoes that let you feel like you are walking on different textures (sand, rock, wood floor, etc.) while wearing a VR headset (and available for virtually a steal at more than a thousand bucks), and shoes that can vacuum as you walk.

If someone could just invent something that would make my kids remember to take *off* their shoes before walking to the living room, I might not even need that last one.

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the article. Then discuss in this way:

Which of these inventions strikes you as something you might like to have? Which ones sound absolutely ridiculous? Why?

If you could invent something to help you with a problem you commonly encounter, what would you want to invent?

Sometimes people have the best intentions, but they just can’t make their invention work. What are some gadgets you use every day that have let you down at some point or another? What happened?

People often have good intentions when they are trying to help a friend in trouble. But sometimes they just seem to make things worse. Today we’re going to read about Job’s friends, and we’ll think about better ways to comfort people who are hurting.