

Jesus - Time to Wash Feet!

“Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him, ‘Lord, do you wash my feet?’ Jesus answered him, ‘What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.’ Peter said to Him, ‘You shall never wash my feet.’ Jesus answered him, ‘If I do not wash you, you have no share with Me.’ Simon Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!’ Jesus said to him, ‘The one who has bathed does not need to wash,

except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.' For He knew who was to betray Him; that was why He said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

When He had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed His place, He said to them, 'Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.'" (John 13:1-17)

- . Profound example of servanthood.
- . Practical expression of serving
- . Principle of Biblical relationships
 - . At home
 - . At church
 - . In our friendships
 - . At work

The foundation of serving.

1. Jesus knew His death was near.

“Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father...” (1)

2. Jesus knew His love for them was clear.

“...having loved His own who were in the world.” (1)

“...He loved them to the end.”

- “showed them the full extent of His love.”
- To the uttermost; fully devoted.
- All the way to the end; never stopped.
- In the face of betrayal and denial.

“I am determined that I am going to love everybody, even if it kills me!” -A.W. Tozer

3. Jesus knew His friend’s unworthiness.

“During supper, when the Devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray Him.” (2)

Satan can only put into the heart when the heart is open to him.

4. Jesus knew His identity was secure.

“Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going back to God.” (3)

“Whoso knoweth himself well, is lowly in his own sight and delighted not in the praises of men.” (Thomas a Kempis)

Secure identity in Christ → serve well for Christ.
The act of serving.

1. He did what needed to be done.

“...rose from supper. He laid aside His outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around His waist.” (4)

“Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around Him.” (5)

2. They needed His cleansing - physical and spiritual.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him, ‘Lord, do You wash my feet?’” (6)

“The truth is, something beautiful happens when I invite

others into my weaknesses”

“When you deny someone the opportunity to help you, you deny them joy that comes in serving.”

I’ll Push You by Patrick Gray

“Simon Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!’” (9)

“The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.” (10)

Physical needs present - dirty feet

Spiritual needs present - dirty heart.

“For He knew who was to betray Him; that was why He said, ‘Not all of you are clean.’” (11)

Spiritual Cleansing?

- The blood of Christ. (1 John 1:7)
- The Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:5)
- The Word of God. (John 15:3; Eph. 5:26)
- Confession of sin. (Psalm 51:1-2)

They did not fully understand.

“Jesus answered him, ‘What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.’” (7)

- Not the sharpest pencil in the box.
- Takes him 2 hours to watch 60 minutes.
- Not the brightest bulb in the box.
- Two fries short of a Happy Meal.

“Peter said to Him, ‘You shall never wash my feet.’” (8)
Saying “No” to Jesus?

I want to serve but...

- Not that!
- Not now!
- Not them!
- Not there!

The example of serving.

Jesus answered him, If I do not wash you, you have no share with me. (8)

1. Imitate Jesus.

(Do what He did - why, what, how.)

Why? - “you call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am.” (13)

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What? - “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.” (14)

How? - “For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.” (15)

“a servant is not greater than his master.” (16)

2. Knowing + Doing = Blessing

“If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.” (17)

It’s your serve!