

Sermon Discussion Guide:

# Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

Sunday, August 1 2021

Scripture: **John 13:1-17**

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## OVERVIEW

In this passage Jesus and his disciples are gathered to celebrate the Passover. This was the last meal that they would share, and Jesus would soon be betrayed, arrested, and crucified. But Jesus— knowing that his hour had come—takes a moment to teach them. Jesus washes the disciples' feet to demonstrate his love for them and to set an example of serving others. This foot washing teaches us how to obey and follow Jesus and also symbolizes the washing away of sins through his death. **To be a follower of Jesus Christ is to follow in his example by serving others.**

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## CORROBORATING TEXTS

Luke 22:24; Philippians 2:6-8; Ephesians 2:8; 1 John 1:9; Luke 6:46; Matthew 11:29; 1 Peter 2:21; Matthew 21:28-31

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In verse 1, the text says that this occurred “before the Feast of the Passover.” What is the significance of the Passover?
2. In verse 2 we see that Judas Iscariot is one of the disciples who gets his feet washed. Would you have washed Judas' feet? What does this scene teach us about Jesus and how we serve? *[we're called to serve but not given the right to determine who we serve.]*
3. In verses 3-8, Jesus begins to wash the disciples' feet but Peter resists. Why does he resist? How do you act when others serve you?
4. In verse 8, Jesus says to Peter, “If I do not wash you, you have no share with me.” Peter quickly changes his tune and wants a bath from Jesus. What does Jesus mean when he says that all the disciples except for Judas were clean? Why is it that only feet are washed? *[As your feet get dirty you do not lose your salvation but your feet need cleansing]*
5. What is the significance of verse 13? *[If you are not willing to serve others you cannot call Jesus Teacher and Lord.]*
6. Foot washing is not an ordinance but a command to serve others. In what ways is God calling you to serve others currently?
7. What does Jesus mean when he says, “If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them” in verse 17? *[you are blessed by not merely knowing the truth but blessing comes by what you do with the truth you know and how it transforms you]*