



Family Conversation Guide

(September 19, 2021)

In this week's passage from the **Book of John**, Jesus is having a meal with the twelve disciples on the Thursday before His arrest and crucifixion the next day on Friday. During the meal, he washes His disciples' feet. ***Jesus wants us to serve, and not be served.***

READ AND DISCUSS

Ask family members to find [John 13](#) in their Bibles. Give them pens and paper so that they can take notes as they listen to the sermon.

1. Jesus meets the disciples in the upper room of a believer's house. This was probably the home of John Mark. In **verse 1, what did it say that Jesus knew?** (*He knew that His hour had come- the time that He would be departing this world to return to the Father in heaven the very next day*)
2. Also in **verse 1, what does it say about Jesus' love for these people?** (*They were His own, and He would love them to the end*)
3. Read **verse 2. Who put it into Judas' heart, before this meal, to betray Jesus?** (*Satan- the devil*)
4. Pointing to **verse 2**, David Chadwick said that it is the father's job to teach their children God's word, so that they will not be tempted by Satan as Judas was. (**verse 2-** *Judas was Simon's son, and Simon would be known forever as the father of Judas, who betrayed Jesus. If a father isn't present in the home, moms can do this job well for the Lord.*) **Parents, how will you be**

remembered as a parent and how you've taught your children about Jesus?

5. Read **verse 3**. **What things did God give into the hands of His Son, Jesus?** (*He had given all things into the hands of Jesus- He was the authority of the world*) **Where does it say Jesus knew He was going?** (*He would be going back to God*)

6. In **verses 3-4**, Jesus rose from the table, took off His outer garment, and tied a towel around His waist. **What did He do next?** (*He poured water into a basin and began to wash the feet of His disciples, and to wipe them with the towel*) In **Luke 22**, we see why Jesus chose this time to do what He did next. **What were the disciples arguing about?** (*About which one of them was the greatest--this had happened several times in Jesus's earthly ministry with them*)

7. Jesus was teaching the disciples about what true greatness is, by humbling Himself and washing the feet of His disciples. As David explained, in those days, the lowest servant would wash the dirty feet of every traveler coming into the home. **What is true greatness?** (*When you serve others by washing their feet*) Jesus even washed the feet of Judas, who would betray Him. We are called to love our enemies.

8. **What was Jesus teaching?** (*Not to be served, but to serve, and to give our lives away to people who desperately need His love, even our enemies.*)

9. Read **verses 6-8**. **How did Simon Peter react when Jesus came to wash his feet?** (*He tried to stop Jesus, and said that he would never let Jesus wash his feet*) **What did Jesus know about Peter?** (*That Peter would soon deny Him 3 times*)

10. In **verse 8**, **why did Jesus say Peter needed to let Jesus wash His feet?** (*"Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me."*) **What**

did Jesus mean? *(Peter would need forgiveness, symbolized by washing of Peter's feet---especially in just a few hours when he would deny that he even knew Jesus!)*

11. In **verse 9**, **how did Peter respond?** *(He then asked Jesus to wash his feet and also his hands and head! Peter wanted what Jesus offered more than anything.)*

12. In **verses 10-11**, Jesus told Peter that if he washed the disciples' feet, they would be completely clean, or forgiven- but not all of them. **Who was Jesus referring to, and why would that person not be clean, or forgiven?** *(Jesus knew that Judas would betray Him)*

13. David Chadwick said there are two kinds of people in the world- forgiven and not forgiven. Saved and not saved. Clean and not clean. Living in the kingdom of darkness or in the kingdom of light, guided by Jesus. **What is the evidence that we are forever forgiven?** *(Baptism)*

14. **Will we sometimes do wrong things (sin), even though we are saved and Jesus has forever forgiven us?** *(Of course!)* **What should we do when we know we have sinned?** *(Read **1 John 1:9**. If we confess our sins, Jesus is faithful and just and will cleanse us from all unrighteousness- He will wash our feet and make us clean again---the power of grace.)* However, David Chadwick warns against continuing to willfully sin because we know we are forgiven. "Don't use God's grace to abuse God's grace." A true follower of Jesus would never do that.

15. In **verses 12-17**, Jesus explains to His disciples why He has washed their feet, to be an example. As their Teacher and Lord, he had shown them how to be a servant and give their lives away, by washing each others' feet and serving each other. In **verse 17**, **what did He say?** *(Jesus said they would be **blessed** if they, His servants, would do what the Master did. Serving others brings true happiness.)*

16. Read **verse 18**. Jesus quotes from the Old Testament, **Psalm 41:9**. **Who ate the bread and would turn against Jesus?** (*Judas*) Jesus knew of those He had chosen, all would remain faithful except one.
17. In **verse 19**, Jesus says He is telling them before these things happen. **Why?** (*so they will believe in Him*)
18. Read **verse 20**. Jesus is saying that as He sends them into the world, whoever receives them receives Jesus. Jesus appointed them to represent Him. These disciples later wrote the New Testament. Their authority to do so came from Jesus, God in human flesh.
19. **What have we learned?** (*If we love Jesus we are His, and He has chosen us to show His love to the world. Jesus wants us to follow His example and give our lives away, washing others' feet and serving them, giving Jesus the glory.*)

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Together, watch "Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRTjb4tYKZ4>

Ask: "Why do you think Jesus washed the feet of the disciples? What was he teaching them?" (*Lead your family in discussing ways they can serve others.*)

To demonstrate the love of Jesus to others with a servant heart, take a bowl and towel and wash the feet of those in your family.

PRAYER

"Jesus, Thank You for showing us how to love and serve others with servant hearts. Help us to show Your love to others who need You. In Your name we pray, Amen."