

# So... Jesus got up...

## Study Guide: – So... Jesus got up...

**Key Scripture:** John 13:1-5 (NIV) “It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ... So he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.”

### Main Points

- **Jesus Knew His Identity and Mission** (John 13:1-3)
  - He knew the hour had come (His death and return to the Father).
  - He knew the Father had given Him all things; He came from God and was returning to God (high Christology: incarnation, deity, and ascension).
  - **Result:** This knowledge did not lead to pride but to humble service.
- **Jesus Demonstrated Radical Humility** (John 13:4-5)
  - Foot washing was the work of the lowest slave in a dusty, sandal-wearing culture.
  - The host or honored guest (especially a rabbi) would never do this.
  - Jesus deliberately and intentionally performed this act on the night before His arrest and crucifixion.
- **Jesus Loved Unconditionally – “To the End”** (John 13:1)
  - He washed the feet of Judas (who would betray Him), Peter (who would deny Him), and all the others who would abandon Him.
  - His love was not based on their performance or future faithfulness — it flowed from His own perfect character.
  - Contrast with transactional human relationships: We often give until it costs too much; Jesus gives regardless.
- **Jesus Calls Us to Follow His Example** (John 13:12-17, implied in sermon)
  - “As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”
  - True love is humble, servant-hearted, and persistent — even when unreciprocated.
  - We cannot put Jesus in a box; He meets each person with exactly what they need (blunt or gentle) because His agenda is always love.

### Key Applications

- God’s love for you is not earned or lost by your failures — you cannot wear it out.
- High understanding of who Christ is should produce low, humble service to others.
- In a stressful, busy season (holidays, transitions, pain), look for opportunities to serve rather than withdraw into self-pity.
- Church family: We are imperfect but follow a perfect Savior — keep leaning into love, prayer, and community.

## **Quotable Quotes**

- “He loved them to the end... He didn’t love them because they were great. He loves them because He is great.”
- “You cannot wear out His love. You might be able to wear out your neighbor. You might be able to wear out your mama, but you cannot wear out the love of God.”
- “Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power... So He got up from the meal.” (High theology leading to lowly service)
- “The God who’s God over all that is, He knelt so far. He got down on His knees into the pit of hell in order to wash my feet.”

## **Questions for Further Thought & Discussion**

1. Read John 13:1-17. Where in your life right now is Jesus inviting you to “get up from the table” and serve someone humbly, even if they may not reciprocate?
2. How does knowing Jesus loves you “to the end” (independent of your performance) change how you view your failures or your relationships with difficult people?
3. Jesus met people differently (gentle with the Samaritan woman, bold with Nicodemus). How can you better discern how to love the specific people in your life this week?