

"Saved To Serve" Pastor Jason West April 21, 2024



Matthew 16:28

I. Seeing the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus

- A. Christ (Luke 9:28-31: John 1:14: 2 Peter 1:16-18)
- B. Peter Has Something to Add (Luke 9:32-36; Mark 9:6)

II. Seeing the of Jesus

A. Jesus Served Out of

John 13:1 "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."

John 13:3 "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,"

1. Knowing What God Called Him to Do (John 13:1)

2. Knowing That God Is In of All Things (John 13:3a)

3. Knowing His True \_\_\_\_\_ (John 13:3b)

B. Jesus Served People

Luke 7:44 "Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair."

1. The \_\_\_\_\_

(Luke 22:24-27)

2. The Act of

John 13:3-5 "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."

John 13:6-8a "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.'"

John 13:8b "Jesus answered him, 'If I do not wash you, you have no share with me.'"

John 13:9 "Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!'"

John 13:10-11 "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.'"

Titus 3:5 "He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit"

C. The Lesson for Us All – Take Up Your \_\_\_\_\_ and Follow Me

John 13:12 "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 vou?'"

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus (John 14:17)

John 13:13-15 "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."

John 13:16-17 "Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not areater 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 14:12-13 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

a. In Your Marriage

(Ephesians 5:25)

- b. With Your Children (Ephesians 6:4a)
- c. In the Workplace

(Ephesians 6: 5, 9; John 13:34)

2. Be

With Jesus

(John 13:35)

## April 21, 2024



#### 1. Familiarize Yourself With the Passage and the Gospel

a. Read John 13:1-20

# 2. Introduction to the Passage (Feel free to use this as a reference guide as you discuss the passage)

Historical Context: There were as many slaves in the ancient world as there are children in our world today. In the Roman world, Italy may have contained two million slaves out of a population of five to six million.<sup>1</sup> In the whole Roman empire, it may have been as high as ten to twelve million out of fifty to sixty million people.<sup>2</sup> This had been the practice of the human economy for most of human civilization. Slaves were recognized by the towel which was worn around their waist and used to wash people's feet (John 13:4).<sup>3</sup> This was considered such a demeaning task that Jewish slaves were not obligated to wash their master's feet as slaves in aentile/roman households were required to do.<sup>4</sup> Jesus has not just lowered himself to a task that rabbi's and masters never did, but descended to the duties of a pagan slave and taught that his followers are to do the same because they are not greater than their own master (John 13:16). The master crushed the pride of his followers through example, because they were unwilling to voluntarily surrender themselves to wash the feet of their own Lord, let glone their own peers. The uniqueness of Jesus' actions can be grasped by knowing that there is no instance of either Jewish or Greco-Roman sources where a superior washed the feet of an inferior.<sup>5</sup>

Literary Context: The washing of the disciple's feet is unique to the gospel of John and in chapter 13, it is the first event recorded for the upper room discourse where Jesus spends the final hours of this earthly ministry with the disciples over one last meal. The fact that the night begins with a foot washing is significant because he is setting the tone for the redefinition of the upcoming Passover. The foot washing foreshadows his ultimate act as a servant where he will lay his life down for sinners through a crucifixion.

### 3. Questions About the Passage

- a. Why was Peter so appalled that Jesus was washing his feet (John 13: 6)?
- b. Jesus claimed that Peter would understand what he is doing "afterward" (John 13: 7). What time frame does Jesus have in mind?
- c. How is the washing in John 13:8 (Peter's feet) different from the washing in John 13:10 (Peter's whole body)? Is it two different kinds of cleansings or the same?

### 4. From the Passage to Life

- a. There are two sides to this account: the one who serves and the ones being served. What kind of humility is needed for each side of this scenario? How can pride be involved for the one who serves or the ones being served?
- What do you think you are missing out on by not spending time getting your feet washed by the Lord (i.e. daily confession and repentance from sin)? (John 15:4-7)
- c. What is difficult about a redeemed sinner living in daily communion with a holy God (i.e. letting Jesus wash our feet)? What is unnerving about it?

1 Murray J. Harris, Slave of Christ: A New Testament metaphor for total devotion to Christ, NSBT (Downers Grove: IVP, 1999), 34.

2 Harris, Slave of Christ, 34.71.

3 Strack and Billerbeck, A Commentary on the New Testament from the Talmud and Midrash, Vol. 2 (Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2022), 641

4 Strack and Billerbeck, 641.

5 D. A. Carson, The Gospel According to John, PNTC (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990), 462.