

## They Meet the Master-Week 5

### John 13:1-17

**Main point: We must not only share the Gospel with our words, but also by serving and loving others.**

#### Intro

- **If you knew today was your last day to live, what would you do?**
- If it were my last day to live I would make sure I was spending time with my wife and kids, I'd call all the people I love to tell them I love them, I'd probably try to get a round or two in of disc golf. I'd try to pack that day full of things I love to do and be around and talk to the people I love.
- If it were your last day to live would you clean toilets? Would you pick up garbage in a park? Would you find ways to serve others or would you want others to serve you?
- Most of us probably would say we would not do those things or want to do those things.
- **Today, we're going to look at a story where Jesus does just that. He knew it would be His last day, His last meal with His friends before He died, and yet He humbled Himself and served them by doing the grossest job of the day and washed their feet.**
- **Through this action, Jesus set an example for us and showed us that we must not only share the Gospel with our words, but also by serving and loving others.**

#### This week's story-John 13:1-17

- **Read John 13:1-17**
- This story takes place during the night of the last supper. Jesus and the disciples were there in Jerusalem celebrating passover. Passover is the festival that celebrates the Jews being freed from Egypt.
- This event takes place Thursday night, less than 24 hours from when Jesus would be crucified on the cross.
- Jesus, even though He knew what was about to happen, gets down on His hands and knees and washes the disciples feet. I don't know that we have a full appreciation for what Jesus was doing because we have these wonderful things called shoes now.
- **Amish children's feet illustration.**
- **Even with shoes today would you want to wash someone's feet?**
- **Would you want someone to wash your feet?**
- Washing feet back then was a big deal. It was a necessity. The way this typically worked is that if the host had servants the lowest ranking servant would wash the feet of the host and his guests. My understanding though, was that if there were no servants either the guests washed their own feet or the lowest ranking member of the group would do it.
- Jesus should not have been the one washing feet that night.
- If there was any night that His disciples should have been serving Him it was this night.
- In Chapter 22 of Luke's Gospel, Luke tells us that that evening the disciples were arguing over who was the greatest among them. These men valued their status and were arguing over their greatness, it's no wonder they weren't volunteering to wash feet.

The fact that they were arguing over who was greatest tells me they felt that washing feet was a task that was beneath them.

- **What does the disciples arguing about who is the greatest tell us about ourselves?**
- Peter and Jesus have a little discussion because Peter didn't want Jesus to wash his feet. But what I want you to take from this is what Jesus says towards the end of the story.
- **Jesus tells us to DO AS I HAVE DONE!**
- **Read vs. 14-16**
- Jesus teaches us that service to others is a key part of evangelism.
- You'll talk about this in your small group but there is a saying that says, people don't care what you know until they know that you care.
- If we are to share the Gospel with others because we love them, we need to serve them because we love them. **Remember the 2nd greatest commandment.**
- Serving others breaks down barriers and opens doors for us to speak truth to others.

**Take away-**

**We must not only share the Gospel with our words, but also by serving and loving others.**