

OPEN WITH JOHN 13:1-7:

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. **2** During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, **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, **4** rose from supper. He laid aside His outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around His waist. **5** 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. **6** He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" **7** Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand."

Jesus acted in the role of the lowest household servant by washing the feet of the disciples - an act that each of them refused to offer Him and one another. In this act, we can learn much about how we should honor others, especially those Christians who are very different from us. If Jesus welcomes, receives and honors these disciples who are nothing alike, surely we should humble ourselves to show honor in the same manner.

From Luke 6:14-16

- A. He chose a brash, impulsive man (14a) - "Simon, whom He named Peter..."
He often leapt before he looked
- B. He chose an extroverted, relational man (14b) - "...and Andrew his brother..."
He consistently reached out to others
- C. He chose an intellectual, introverted man (15b) - "...and Thomas..."
He struggled with believing without evidence or proof
- D. He chose average men (14d) - "...Philip and Bartholomew..."
Little is said of these two beyond their selection by Christ
- E. He chose a self-serving man (15a) - "Matthew..."
He was a man with a questionable past & tainted loyalty to the Jewish people
- F. He chose a radical man (15c) - "...and Simon who was called the Zealot."
His nickname indicated his zealous opposition to Rome as a loyal Jew
- G. He chose ambitious men (14c) - "...James and John..."
These men wanted choice positions in Christ's Kingdom
- H. He chose a treacherous man (16b) - "...and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor."
Jesus washed the feet of the traitor. How much more should we serve and show honor to others?

"If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. 16 Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them." - John 13:14-17