

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

The Book of John

Lesson 14

Christ Washes the Disciples' Feet

John 13:1-30

REFLECTION

Review John 12:12-50. What impressed you regarding the many prophecies that Jesus was fulfilling? What was a new thought to you regarding loving your life and hating your life for Christ's sake from His teaching on the grain of wheat?

FOCUS VERSE

If I then your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet (John 13:14).

SECTION 1 – Jesus Washes Feet

Read John 13:1-11.

1. What did Jesus know before the final Passover¹ feast at the Last Supper² (vs. 1-3)? What did Jesus continue to demonstrate to His own? Who would betray Jesus?

3

2. Describe what Jesus did during the Supper (vs. 4, 5)? _____⁴

¹ Passover: celebration of the Hebrew nation's deliverance from the slavery of Egypt; remembering the night when the Angel of Death killed every firstborn in Egypt, but passed over the homes whose doorposts were marked with the blood of a lamb.

² Last Supper: instituted by Christ that we might remember His death and fellowship in unity as we anticipate His return; the wine being symbolic of His blood shed, and the bread symbolic of His body broken, for the sins of man.

³ loved...to the end: Greek *agapensen*: self sacrificial love. Greek *eistelos*: to the uttermost.

⁴ garments: outer garment.

LOOK DEEPER

Re-read John 13:1-5 with Luke 22:14-27. What was the dispute among the disciples? What did Jesus teach them? What did He say about Himself?

3. Who was the disciple that objected to Jesus washing his feet (John 13:6-8)? _____

What did this disciple ask the Lord? _____

How did Jesus respond to his objection? _____

LOOK DEEPER

Re-read John 13:8 with I John 1:7b-10. What was Jesus teaching Peter in His words? _____

4. How do you see Peter's attitude changing (John 13:9)? _____

When would Peter fully understand the depth of the foot washing (See John 14:25, 26)? _____

5. Who was not clean (John 13:10, 11)? Why? _____

PERSONAL

Are you clean? How can you be sure? How does Revelation 1:4-6 confirm it to you? _____

SECTION 2 – Jesus Teaches by Example

Read John 13:11-20.

1. Did Jesus wash His betrayer's feet (vs. 11, 12)? Explain. _____

What did Jesus ask His disciples after He performed the duty of a lowly servant? _____

LOOK DEEPER

How does Philippians 2:5-8 add a deeper meaning of what Jesus came to do on this earth? _____

2. In teaching the disciples, what two titles does Jesus use to refer to Himself (John 13:13-15)? _____

⁵

3. What does Jesus tell the disciples they are to do (vs. 14-16)? Why? _____

PERSONAL

What does verse 14 mean to you? How can you follow Jesus' example in your daily life? _____

⁵ Teacher and Lord: ordinary titles of respect given to a rabbi. Teacher: master with authority to teach. Lord: having authority over their lives.

LOOK DEEPER

Read John 13:16 along with similar references. What do you learn about servanthood?

John 15:20 _____

Luke 6:40 _____

Luke 12:37, 38 _____

Revelation 22:3, 4 _____

4. What is Christ's promise to those who follow His example (John 13:17)? _____

PERSONAL

Search your heart in your situation. What is your motive for serving? _____

5. As the time approached for Jesus' betrayal, what would be fulfilled (John 13:18b, Psalm 41:9)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

Jesus always knew the truth about Judas. What added information is found about this man in Psalm 41:9?

What do you learn from this? _____

What do the following Scriptures reveal?

John 6:70, 71 _____

John 17:12 _____

Matthew 26:23-25 _____

6. Why did Jesus reveal what was about to happen (John 13:19)? _____

7. What emphatic words of truth about His servants does Jesus teach His disciples (vs. 20)? _____

6

LOOK DEEPER

Jesus' words from verse 20 are further expounded by three Gospel writers. What is Jesus teaching?

Matthew 10:40 _____

Matthew 25:31-40 _____

Luke 9:48 _____

John 12:44, 45 _____

PERSONAL

Review John 13:1-20. How have your thoughts on serving Christ changed because of Jesus' example of servanthood?

⁶ most assuredly; to tell the truth.

SECTION 3 – Jesus Announces His Betrayer

Read John 13:21-30.

1. How did Jesus feel emotionally and to what did He testify in verse 21? _____

2. What were the disciples' reaction to Jesus' troubling statement (vs. 22-26)? _____

How did Jesus say His betrayer would be exposed? _____

3. What happened immediately when the betrayer took the bread (vs. 27)? _____

What did Jesus command? _____

LOOK DEEPER

How does Satan afflict and seek to deceive mankind?

Luke 22:31 _____

John 13:2 _____

Acts 5:3 _____

I Peter 5:8b _____

How do these verses teach and comfort you regarding Satan's assaults?

Ephesians 6:10-18 _____

I Peter 5:8, 9 _____

I John 4:4 _____

What added information is given in the other Gospels regarding Jesus' announcement of His betrayer?

Matthew 26:20-25 _____

Mark 14:18-21 _____

Luke 22:21-23 _____

4. What did the disciples assume Jesus meant when He said to Judas, *What you are about to do, do quickly* (John 13:27b-30)?

What did Judas receive from Jesus? _____

What time of the day was it? _____

PERSONAL

Compare night time with the spiritual darkness of a man's heart. _____

How does John 12:34, 35 encourage you? _____

*And he who receives Me
receives Him who sent Me.
John 13:20b*

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