

Lent Study 2020

“Yes Jesus, but...” – the disciple’s reactions to Jesus’ last week of teaching

SMALL GROUP LESSON 3

Based on Sermon from 3/15/20

“Yes Jesus, but surely you’re not going to wash my feet? (John 13:1-17)

Jesus act of washing his disciples feet was shocking to a world that expected (and still expects) leaders to be served rather than serve. In the culture of the time most homeowners would leave a bucket of water at the door for people to wash their own feet. In more wealthy homes this would be performed by a slave (not even a Jewish servant). The disciples are clearly shocked by this act and is it likely Peter (as usual) was voicing the unsaid thoughts of the rest of the group when he protested that Jesus should not do such a demeaning act.

Yet, what Jesus was doing was not purely for the benefit of the disciples but for all believers that would follow them. He was demonstrating the heart of love and service that he expects all his followers to embody *“Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”*

In this study we will explore the example Jesus sets through this act and what this means for us.

Question: Think back to a great act of service you once received. This could be an unexpected gift, someone exceeding your expectations etc. What prompted the other person to do this for you? How did this make you feel?

Read John 13:3.

Question: What are the 3 things this says about Jesus knew about himself?

Question: Why do you think this statement is made as an introduction to Jesus’ act?

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Jesus was completely secure in himself and his relationship with his Father.

Question: To what extent is being secure ourselves a pre-requisite to be able to truly serve and bless others?

Look up some of the verses to see what they say about how we find our security in God:

Where we come from	Psalm 139: 13-16 Isaiah 43:1 2 Corinthians 5:17	
The power we have	Romans 8:11 Matthew 16:9 Philippians 4:13 Isaiah 54:17	
Where we are going	Jeremiah 29:11 Romans 15:13 1 Peter 1:4 2 Corinthians 3:18	

Question: Who do you believe God is calling you to serve at this time? In what ways might this involve humbling yourself?

Question: If you haven’t accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior, is there something you feel is holding you back that you would like to discuss? If you don’t know or are not comfortable sharing we understand that to.

Question: Does Sanctification make sense to you? What are the things that get you off track? What are the important ways that you find your way back to God?

Question: How do you feel about being challenged to be more vulnerable? ask for help? Does it makes sense to you how Christ wants to show his love for you directly and through the servant leadership of others? What steps can you take to grow in your church family?

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Question: Is there anything that you need now that we, as a group might be able to help you with?

FOR PRAYER

Pray for each other, that:

- 1) We can know the security of who we are in God
- 2) From this place of security, we can humble ourselves to serve and love of others

Pray for any specific people who are in need in our community and ask God how we can serve them best.