



Chapter 13

Love, Humility, Betrayal

The Servant King Gets Ready for His Own

Introduction:

- Jesus has now completed His public ministry.
- From this chapter onward, He concentrates almost entirely on preparing His disciples for life without His visible presence.
- Children are asked: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"
- Jesus held a different view of servanthood

Overview of the Chapter

- 1. Greatness in Jesus' eyes does not come from having many servants but from being the servant of many (13:1-17).
- 2. How to stay calm when someone in your life hurts you (13:18-33)
- 3. What type of love should we have that will show people we are truly followers of Jesus – being the fifth Gospel (13:34-38)?

The Picture of Love

- Before Jesus could instruct his disciples about his death, he was to demonstrate a lesson in servitude
- Why do you think Jesus washes his disciples' feet rather than simply giving them a sermon on love?
- If ministers, pastors, leaders, and teachers followed this instruction, what would the result be?
- Why was Peter shocked that Jesus wanted to wash his feet?
- Why did Peter go from rejecting Jesus' foot-washing to asking for a full bath?

- Judas had spent three years with Jesus and the group but had not surrendered his heart. What does this tell us? What do we learn from his behavior?

Open Membership for the Towel Society

- Foot washing can take many forms.
- The blessings found in the act of Doing, as described in John 13:16-17.
- To be blessed or happy, we have to roll up our sleeves and get

Turn on the Spotlight

- If you knew that one of your closest friends was going to tell the authorities about ‘your whereabouts’ and that his action could cost you your freedom, your job, and perhaps your life – what would you do?
- If you knew that the death of a local ‘Christian’ friend would cause thousands of people in a closed country to know about Jesus, how would you feel?
- What if it was your death?

Known by your love

- Jesus issued a ‘new commandment’ for the disciples to love one another (13:34). The call to love others isn’t new (Leviticus 19:18, 34). What, then, is ‘new’ about this commandment?
- Judas completely denied Jesus
- Peter denied, cried, repented, and returned. What about us?

Questions

- How did Jesus get His disciples ready for His death?
- In what ways does our love for one another demonstrate that we belong to Jesus?
- Why do you think Jesus chose to teach humility by washing feet rather than by delivering another sermon?
- Which character do you most identify with: Peter, Judas, John, or the unnamed disciples? Why?