

The Heart of a Servant

John 13:1-17 (NASB)

I. Limitless Love Jn 13:1

¹ Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. John 13:1 (NASB) The Heart of a Servant

I. Limitless Love Jn 13:1 II. The Lavish Father's Identity Jn 13:3

³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God,

I. Limitless Love Jn 13:1 II. The Lavish Father's Identity Jn 13:3

III. Lowly Humility Jn 13:4-5

⁴ *got up from supper, and *laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself.

⁵ Then He *poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.

I. Limitless Love Jn 13:1
II. The Lavish Father's Identity Jn 13:3

III. Lowly Humility Jn 13:4-5
IV. Legion Acts of Servanthood Jn 13:14,16,17

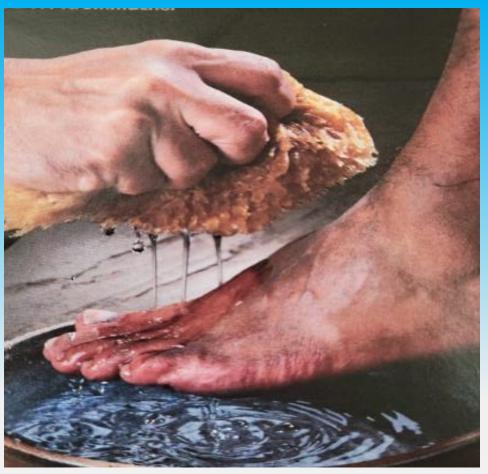
¹⁴ "If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

¹⁶ "Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him.

¹⁷ "If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

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Questions:

- 1. Who would you nominate for the "mother Teresa Award" in your family or church for selfless, tireless servanthood?
- 2. Who in your life right now is a difficult person to serve (don't share the name, think inside your head)? Now share with the class what type of emotions and thoughts come into your head as you think about serving them and washing their feet.
- 3. What strikes you about the Limitless Love of Jesus in John 13:1 with washing John's, Peter's, and Judas' feet?
- 4. Why is it so hard to love the unlovely?

- 5. As you ponder the identity of Jesus with His Father's lavish giving to His Son, what challenges do you have about remembering your identity is to come from above and not from things on earth (John 13:3)?
- 6. As Jesus stoops low to wash their feet, what lessons do you learn from Jesus about humility that can help you steer away from pride (Jn 13:4-5)?
- 7. While Peter is taking the washing of his feet literally, what do you think Jesus meant by His statement in Jn 13:8? In Jn 13:10?
- 8. If you were Peter, would you have reacted the way he did? Why or why not?

- 9. Knowing is one thing but beginning to "do" servanthood (Jn 13:17) is another. Is serving hard or easy for you to do?
- 10. What did Jesus mean when He told the disciples they should wash one another's feet?
 - o Literally, wash each other's feet
 - o Be willing to do the 'dirty work'
 - o Take care of each other
 - o Observe Footwashing regularly
 - o Follow His example in all things
 - o Other _____

- 11. What would it mean in your life to practice Footwashing in your daily relationships?
 - o Take care of others more
 - o Let others take care of me
 - o Spend more time with family
 - o Show more affection
 - o Show more appreciation
 - o Be more patient and forgiving
 - o Serve with no strings attached
 - o Do things that aren't 'my job'
 - o Help with unpleasant tasks
- 12. What are the rewards of serving others?
- 13. In what ways do you need Jesus to wash your feet today?Do you allow the Lord to minister to you?