

## Our Glorious Servant King 2019-10-06

### John 13:3-7

*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."*

My love language: acts of service. It's how I express love and feel loved.

- King Jesus expressed His love to undeserving people by serving them.

Impt: previous week taught disciples, "in Kingdom of God leadership not opportunity to be served but place to serve others"...apparently fell on deaf ears. Mark 9:33-35; Luke 22:14-15, 24-27

- At Passover meal within 24 hours of cross: again arguing who greatest in Kingdom of God.

Night before his death he gives example/lesson: greatness in Kingdom of God is serving others. John 13:1-5

- Disciples not wash feet because too proud....fighting for throne not towel.
  - Unique to Christianity....Humble God.

King Jesus expressed His love to undeserving proud disciples by serving them.

- Not play favorites: washed feet of Peter/deny, Thomas/doubt, Judas/betray.
  - Blackest hatred contrasted w/purest love.
- Jesus loves us in spite of knowing in advance our failures/sins.
  - constant/unchanging love purely out of His grace not our performance.

Profound lesson on humility because this task of lowest servant.

- Fisherman wash another fisherman's feet is small act of humility, but Creator wash feet of proud, selfish, sinful men is magnanimous humility.
  - The disciples were shocked, sorrowful, regretful, convicted. John 13:6-9

Peter goes from one extreme to another. "Never wash me!" (not worthy) to "Wash everything!" (desire to fully receive all Jesus will offer).

- Peter did not understand this was visible illustration of a spiritual truth.
  - King Jesus would express His love to undeserving disciples by serving them by cleansing them from their sin. John 13:10-11, 1 John 1:7-9, 2:16

Once bathed, needed only wash feet to remove dirt from day.

- Spiritually bathed at conversion so completely cleansed before God. *Gospel.*
- Also need "feet washed" daily.... Not lose sonship, but need daily application of father's forgiveness so relationship remains close.
  - Like your child with muddy hands...cleansing before communion.

Seems backward: God is greatly glorified when He humbly serves undeserving.

- He is all-sufficient giver/server and we the needy recipient.

King Jesus glorified: daily express His love to undeserving people by serving them.

- Holy Spirit, sanctification, intercedes, feeds His sheep, grace, Word,
  - Jesus is glorified when He serves Christians by enabling to follow His example & love undeserving people by serving them. John 13:12-17, Philippians 2:3-8

Not literal foot washing but "foot washing" attitude: Matthew 20:28, Psalm 113:5-8

- Humbly think of others (including undeserving) more highly than self.
- Focusing on others needs rather than own needs/rights.
  - Jesus' feet were dirty and He had right to be served but instead He served.
- Take initiative to serve... Jesus did not wait for them to serve him.
- Do what others are unwilling to do...no task beneath us for Jesus' sake.

Cost you love undeserving people w/gracious, sacrificial, selfless, humble service.

- But receive blessings when by grace you obey Jesus by serving others.
  - Experience great joy: Jesus glorified thru your humble service.