

## The radical shift from self to service

John 13:1-17

Introduction to John 13-17: Jesus' last task before dying on the cross was to show his love for his disciples (John 13:1; 17:26).

- I. Jesus humbly served his disciples by washing their feet (John 13:2-11; See context Luke 22:24-30).
  - A. His thoughts – Jesus had all authority, yet was about to die, and Judas would betray him (13:2-3).
  - B. His act – Jesus showed true humility by washing feet (13:4-11).
    1. Jesus stripped down, took a towel and water, washed and dried the disciples' feet (4-5).
    2. Jesus taught Peter a spiritual application (6-12)
      - Peter objected but Jesus said “foot cleansing” is a normal part of being a disciple (6-9).
      - Peter then wanted a bath, but Jesus said believers only need regular cleansing (10-12).
        - *Bathe, body clean* – Belief (John 3:16; 15:3)
        - *Wash feet* – Fellowship (1 John 1:9)
- II. To follow Jesus we must humbly serve one another (John 13:12-17).
  - A. The Principle: We must serve like Jesus (13:12-16).
    - As Jesus served humbly despite his exalted position, we also must serve humbly whatever our position.
  - B. The Promise: God blesses those who make the radical shift from self to service (13:17).