

Becoming A Devoted Follower Of Jesus
Serving People - John 13
Cornerstone Church Of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
January 14, 2024

Sermon Notes

What Does A Devoted Follower Of Jesus Look Like?

1. They Serve People

¹ It was just before the **Passover Feast**. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having **loved his own** who were in the world, he now showed them **the full extent of his love**. ² The evening meal was being served, and the **devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot**, son of Simon, **to betray Jesus**. ³ **Jesus knew** that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had **come from God and was returning to God**; ⁴ so he **got up** from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and **wrapped a towel around his waist**. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and **began to wash his disciples' feet**, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

John 13:1-5 (NIV)

⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷ Jesus replied, "**You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.**" ⁸ "No," said Peter, "**you shall never wash my feet.**" Jesus answered, "**Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.**" **John 13:6-8 (NIV)**

⁹ "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

¹⁰ Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. **And you are clean**, though not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. **John 13:9-11 NIV**

¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³ "You call me '**Teacher**' and '**Lord**,' and rightly so, for that is what I am." ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, **you also should wash one another's feet**. ¹⁵ I have set you an **example** that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ I tell you the truth, **no servant is greater than his master**, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ **Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.**

John 13:12-17 (NIV)

¹⁸ "I am not referring to all of you; **I know those I have chosen**. But this is to fulfill the scripture: '**He who shares my bread has lifted up his heel against me.**'" ¹⁹ "I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe that I am He." ²⁰ I tell you the truth, **whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me**; and **whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me.**" **John 13:18-20 (NIV)**

²¹ After he had said this, **Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me."** ²² His disciples stared at one another, **at a loss to know which of them he meant.** ²³ One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. ²⁴ Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means." ²⁵ Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "**Lord, who is it?**" ²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, **he gave it to Judas Iscariot,** son of Simon. ²⁷ As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. "**What you are about to do, do quickly,**" Jesus told him, ²⁸ **but no one at the meal understood** why Jesus said this to him. ²⁹ Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the Feast, or to give something to the poor. ³⁰ As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night. **John 13:21-30 (NIV)**

³¹ When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. ³³ "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. ³⁴ "A new command I give you: **Love one another.** As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ **By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.**" **John 13:31-35 (NIV)**

³⁶ Simon Peter asked him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus replied, "Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later." ³⁷ Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I follow you now? **I will lay down my life for you.**" ³⁸ Then Jesus answered, "Will you really lay down your life for me? I tell you the truth, **before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!** **John 13:36-38 (NIV)**

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What Does A Devoted Follower Of Jesus Look Like?

2. They Serve People With God's Grace

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to **serve others**, faithfully **administering God's grace** in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be **praised** through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen." **1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV)**

➤ Who or where do you need to serve?

Mark the Cornerstone Ministries you may be interested in:

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth/Teens | <input type="checkbox"/> Church Marketing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visitation/Meals | <input type="checkbox"/> First Impressions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality/Café | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Media & Sound | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer & Celebration of Birth Quilts | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Groups |

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Small Group Leader: Choose how many questions that will honor your time commitment. Encourage everyone to participate in either a question, reading or prayer. If using this as a family, use the **icebreaker** section to go deeper on Sunday's teaching.

Open in Prayer.

Icebreaker: What meals have been the most special growing up?
 What was usually served?

When it comes to housework, what is the last job you would pick?
 Who usually does it?

Who would you nominate as the "Mother Teresa Award" in your family or church for selfless, tireless servanthood?

How can we serve each other better as a family?

Cornerstone's 2024 Vision: To Become A Devoted Follower Of Jesus

Read John 13

What does Jesus know that escapes the disciple's attention? 13:1,3,11,38

Hence, what impresses you about Jesus washing the disciples' feet?

If you were Peter, would you have reacted the way he did? Why or why not?

What do you think Jesus meant in verse 8?

How does Jesus challenge their idea of what it means to be the chief follower of the Messiah?

In your spiritual life, who is one person who has demonstrated what it means to serve others?

What did they do?

Specifically, how will you put into practice serving others?

Which relationship needs it the most?

What does Jesus call the disciples to do in verses 13:34-35?

How does feeling love towards someone differ than demonstrating love?

How does your family rank on this level of love?

How does our church family rank on this level of love?

Swindoll's Living Insights New Testament Commentary - John.

Once Jesus finished His opening act of humility, He began to teach. First, he explained His purpose. In classic didactic fashion, He posed a carefully crafted question to His students. He asked them to interpret the meaning of His washing their feet. I suspect He entertained some creative responses, some of which were undoubtedly funny. Then He established two principles of humility that were to become foundational to His kingdom.

First, humility doesn't discriminate; humility is expressed equally to all. Jesus didn't ask His students to wash His feet in return, but to wash the feet of one another. Let's face it; most of us would stand in line to wash the Savior's feet because He's worthy! But how many are ready to wash the feet of another person in the church, particularly someone we don't like very much? This lesson would hit the disciples even harder later on when they recalled that Jesus bowed before Judas to wash his feet along with the others.

Second, humility turns the structure of authority upside down. Earlier in His ministry, Jesus stated flatly, "If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all" (Mark 9:35; cf. Matt. 18:4; 19:30; 20:16; Mark 10:31; Luke 9:48; 13:30). Jesus, as the King of the new kingdom, reduced Himself to become the least of humanity, taking on Himself the sin of the world—becoming sin, as it were (2 Cor. 5:21)—and then suffering the most humiliating death ever devised by man. While no other human can possibly match His humility, we have been summoned to imitate our Master.

We do not become "great" in the new kingdom by suffering crucifixion; the need for sacrificial death has been completely satisfied by Christ. We become "great" in the new kingdom by bowing low to serve one another.

Close in prayer: