



Perfecting Discipleship:

Discipleship and Service

A Servant's Heart

After the disciples were arguing among themselves who would be the greatest, Jesus told them that to be great you must become the servant of all. Jesus again teaches that lesson in this passage.

Introduction: An Uninvited Guest :2; 10; 11

1. Judas was being tempted by Satan
2. Judas was permitted at the table and Jesus washed his feet
3. We can be tempted anywhere—even at communion—be on guard

A. The Power of the Servant :3-4

1. Jesus ONLY did what He saw the Father doing *Joh 5:19*
2. This is what God does: He washes feet—even those who would betray Him
3. The Father gave 'all things' into Jesus hands: Under His power
4. All authority (power) in heaven and earth was given to Jesus and we now operate under that mantle *Mat 28:19-20*

B. The Heart of the Servant :5-10

1. Jesus does the unexpected and Peter responds out of pride
2. Jesus humbles Himself as a servant
3. The heart of the servant is to cleanse/heal the sin/hurt in a person's life *Gal 6:1-5*
4. Like the disciples—we cannot 'understand' unless we view things through the cross :7

C. The Conduct of the Servant :12-17

These verses reveal four areas of servant-conduct:

1. (:12) Know—Knowledge: Jesus asked the disciples, "Do you know what I have done to you?"
 - a. Do you know what Christ has done for and to you?
 - b. Unless we know what Christ has done for us—we cannot be a disciple-servant.
2. (:13-14) Consistency: Let 'creed' and 'conduct' match on a consistent basis in your life.
3. (:15) Christ-likeness: To do as Jesus has done is to be Christ-like. Jesus was not instituting a new sacrament of 'feet washing' but was teaching a way of ministering in His Spirit: The Spirit of Jesus.
4. (:16-17) Happy-Blessed: The disciple-servant is blessed when he serves in humility and submission. Most of all—the disciple-servant is blessed when he is a doer of the Word. :17; *Phil 4:9; James 1:23*

Christ didn't commit the gospel to an advertising agency; he commissioned disciples.

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John 13:2-17

:2 And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him,

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

:4 rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.

:5 After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.

:6 Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?"

:7 Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this."

:8 Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me."

:9 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!"

:10 Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you."

:11 For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean."

:12 So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"

:13 You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.

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

:15 For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.

:16 Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.

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