

PART 7 Planting Spiritual Seeds

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew 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. The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus.

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 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.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!'

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." For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. 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.

"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

John 13:34-35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Our transformation into Christ-likeness **requires it**

IT FORWARD

"I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you." JOHN 13:15

Our bless-ability demands it

"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." JOHN 13:17

IT FORWARD

Our witness is made credible by it

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." JOHN 13:35

PAYITFORWARD The catalyst of the calling is LOVE

"Having loved his own... Jesus now showed them the full extent of his love." JOHN 13:1

"Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." I JOHN 4:16

"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers."

I JOHN 3:16

"Christ's love [now] compels us."

PAY IT FORWARD The evidence of love is **SERVICE**

"Jesus now showed them the full extent of his love... He poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet." John 13:1 & 5

"Let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence."

I JOHN 3:18-19

The power for service is **GRACE**

""No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." JOHN 13:8

"When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy."

TITUS 3:4-5

PAYITIFORWARD The test of grace is undeserved KINDNESS

"You disciples are clean, but not all of you." For he knew who'd betray him." JOHN 13:10-11

Luke 6:32-36

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? 'Sinners' do that, too...

Luke 6:32-36

"But love your enemies, do good to them... without expecting ... anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you'll be sons of the Most High, be-cause he's kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

PAYITIFORWARD We can change the world one life LOVED at a time JESUS SAID SO ... "By this, everyone will know you're my disciples, if you love one another." JOHN 13:35



"Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them." JOHN 13:17



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YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US THIS EASTER Sunday, April 8th 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.

SOMETHING FOR The whole family

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