

What did he mean by the words, "I have given you an example"?

¹² ... "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.

John 13:12-15

An example of what? 3rd Application:

Influence and authority come from humble service

The Closing:

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.

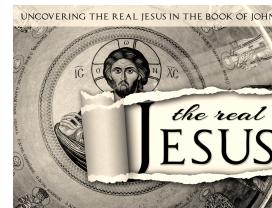
John 13:16,17

NT Wright: Balancing the warning about servants not being greater than their master is the promise in verse 20...

I tell you the truth, anyone who welcomes my messenger is welcoming me, and anyone who welcomes me is welcoming the Father who sent me." John 13:20

Those that go in Jesus name, who get on with whatever work he gives them to do in his spirit and his love, are given an extraordinary status and privilege. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes Jesus, and thereby also welcomes 'the One who sent him.'

Sierra Community Church March 21st, 2021 Part 37- Dan Wilvers



Christian Behavior 101 Humble Service John 13:1-17

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. verse 15

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. 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." 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 everyone was clean. 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."

It's not mentioned in the gospel of John, but in the gospel of Luke we're told that an argument broke out after the Last Supper.

Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them. Jesus told them, "In this world the kings and great men lord it over their people, yet they are called 'friends of the people.'²⁶ But among you it will be different. Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant.²⁷ Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. But not here! For I am among you as one who serves. Luke 22:24-27

In John 13, Jesus demonstrates how this teaching works.

1st Application: Be the kind of people who *gladly* go low.

In verse 3 we have a very clear statement of what was in Jesus' mind when he got down and began to wash their feet.

"Remembering that he had come *from* God and the hour had come for him to return to God, he got down and began to wash feet." John 13:3

2nd Application: Know like Jesus, that we belong to God now.

Jesus Christ has died and he has borne the cost, that means your sins can no longer separate you from God. *It means that all of your guilt is all taken away from you*

Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death.¹⁵ Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.

Hebrews 2:14,15

Peter can't figure it out.

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

John 13:6-9

Peter's view is our view. "*The one at the top ought to be served.*"

In response to Peter's reversal, **Jesus gives a two-fold explanation**, this is what he wants us to learn.

Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. *And you are clean,* ...

John 13:10

The Theological truth: You are clean means you are saved. (Jesus) saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:5

The "new birth" is regeneration, and it only occurs once.

The Practical truth: Some Christians become confused here. "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet;" John 13:10

What does that symbolize? John tells us in a later letter, "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," 1 John 1:9

That is the daily Christian walk -- the daily cleansing. We don't need to be washed again, but what we do need is to acknowledge daily the evil in our lives.