

Jesus Models a Life of Service (John 13:1-20)

I. Jesus Serves in Demonstration of His Love (1-5)

A. Jesus Demonstrated His Steadfast Love for His Own (1)

1. Jesus Knew His Mission was Almost Complete

- a. Jesus knew his hour had come to depart from the world
- b. Jesus knew he was going to be with the Father
- c. Jesus knew he was going to be glorified in the Father's presence

2. Jesus Loved His Own Until the Very End

- a. He loved them from the beginning
- b. He loved them to the end
- c. He is going to demonstrate this love
- d. Jesus is now going to be exalted, yet he still loved those who were his people

B. Jesus Humbles Himself in Service (2-5)

1. Jesus Knew He had Been Given all Authority (2-3)

- a. Jesus Knew that Judas would betray Him (2)
 - i. He was aware that his betrayer sat at table with him
 - ii. He still demonstrated his love for the brethren
 - iii. He showed no animosity at all for Judas
- b. Jesus Knew He was Given all power and Authority (3)
 - i. The Father had given all things into his hand
 - Jesus was being exalted before the Father
 - Jesus was about to complete the work the Father had given Him
 - Jesus' kingdom was about to enter the creation
 - ii. He had come from the Father
 - He was sent from the highest authority
 - He did not come of his own doing
 - iii. He was going back to the Father
 - He was about to reclaim the glory he had with the Father
 - He was about to sit at the right hand of power

2. Jesus Knew his authority But Washed the Disciple's Feet (4-6)

- a. Jesus took the task of the lowest servant
 - i. He rose from supper
 - ii. He took off his outer clothes
 - iii. He tied a towel around his waist
 - iv. He poured water into a basin
 - v. He began washing the disciples feet
 - vi. He wiped their feet with his towel
- b. Normally this would be done by a servant of the house

- i. There wasn't one there
- ii. The disciples probably passed right by the bowl and water thinking the task was too menial
- iii. The bowl and water were in the room so they must have been placed there for that purpose
- iv. Jesus the Lord of all took the task upon himself
- v. He did this knowing that he had been exalted to the right hand of the Father

II. Jesus Serves in Demonstration of Living for Christ (6-11)

A. Simon Doesn't Understand Jesus' Actions (6-7)

- 1. Simon (Peter) objects to Jesus' humble action (6)
 - a. He believes the task is beneath Jesus
 - b. He desires to keep Jesus high and exalted
- 2. Jesus Assures Peter He will soon Understand (7)
 - a. Jesus is clear that there is a reason for this
 - b. Peter doesn't understand it yet, but he will very soon

B. Jesus' Actions Symbolize the Christian Life (8-10a)

- 1. Jesus Shows Peter the Necessity of Being Sanctified (8)
 - a. Peter absolutely refuses to let Christ wash him
 - b. Jesus says Peter must allow it if he is to have a share with Christ
 - c. Jesus is demonstrating that as believers walk through the dirty roads of life – Jesus will constantly be washing the feet of his people
 - i. Jesus will be conforming us to his image for the rest of our lives
 - ii. Jesus will be cleaning out dirty things in our lives for the rest of our lives
 - iii. Jesus will be transforming us for the rest of our lives
 - iv. This is called Sanctification

2. Jesus Shows Peter the Truth of Salvation (9-10a)

- a. Peter then wants his whole body washed (9)
- b. One who is clean only needs his feet washed (10a)
- c. Jesus is demonstrating that Salvation itself is a one time Event
 - i. Although Jesus is washing their feet, they do not need an entire cleansing
 - ii. Peter doesn't understand Jesus' action
 - iii. When we are saved, we are clean in God's sight once for all, but he will be continually "cleaning" us for the rest of our lives.

C. Jesus Knows Those Who Are Not His (10b-11)

- 1. Jesus' Followers are Clean (10b)
- 2. Judas was not a true follower and therefore he was not clean

III. Jesus Serves As An Example For His Disciples to Follow (12-20)

- A. Jesus Explains His Actions to the Disciples (12-17)
 - 1. Jesus asks if they understand what he has done (12)
 - 2. The Disciples Must Follow Jesus' Example (13-15)
 - a. The student must follow the example of his teacher (13-14)
 - i. Jesus affirms that he is their Lord and teacher
 - ii. Jesus as their Lord washed their feet
 - iii. Jesus commands them to wash one another's feet – (ought here is not a suggestion but an obligation)
 - b. Jesus' humble service is the example they must follow (15)
 - 3. The Disciples are Blessed who Serve in Jesus' Example (16-17)
 - a. Jesus will send them as his humble messengers (16)
 - i. The servant isn't greater than his master
 - ii. The messenger isn't greater than the one who sent him
 - iii. Jesus is intimating that he is not just their Lord – but he is going to be the one who sends them very soon.
 - b. The One who Serves in this way is Blessed (17)
- B. Jesus Assures them of His Mission (18-20)
 - 1. Jesus Demonstrates his Deity by Foretelling his Betrayal (18-19)
 - a. Jesus knows who will betray him in fulfillment of scripture
 - i. Jesus knew Judas was going to betray him
 - ii. Jesus knew this was for the scripture to be fulfilled
 - b. Jesus foretells his betrayal as evidence of his claim (19)
 - i. Jesus tells them this before hand
 - ii. Jesus tells them so they will know that he is well aware of it
 - c. Jesus wants them to know that what's about to happen is not going to affect his mission – It will cause it to come to pass
 - d. Even the bad things work together for good
 - 2. Jesus is Sending the Disciples in His Name (20)
 - a. When man receives the one sent – he receives Christ
 - b. When man receives Christ – he receives the one who sent Christ
 - c. Jesus is giving the disciples the authority of the gospel
 - d. They will preach and bring men into relationship with God.