



**Come. Follow. Me.**  
**Jesus's Invitation of Life**  
**#7 - Follow My Example (John 13:1-17)**

---

*"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."*

- John 13:13-15 (New International Version)

**Jesus: Lord, Teacher, Servant**

1. It is the night before His crucifixion. Jesus has only a few remaining hours to prepare His disciples for the trauma of His coming self-sacrifice and to impress upon them the \_\_\_\_\_ of His message. After 30-some years of living as *"the Word [who] became flesh"* (John 1:14) and 3+ years of immersive ministry with His disciples, Jesus *"loved them to the end"* (v. 1) with His words and His actions.
2. In perhaps the most powerful \_\_\_\_\_ lesson in all history, Jesus washes His disciples' feet.
  - a. By doing this, Jesus broke social stereotypes and \_\_\_\_\_. Because of sandals and dust, foot washing was a necessary act of hospitality, hygiene, and religious ritual. However, it was demeaning. Only slaves performed this service. Jewish masters, however, could not force Jewish slaves to wash feet.
  - b. Jesus not only lowers himself (literally) to wash feet, but he removes his clothes – a sign of humility and \_\_\_\_\_.

*"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness." - Philippians 2:5-7 (NIV)*

- c. In \_\_\_\_\_ of pages of Jewish literature detailing the teachings of rabbis, there is not one single reference to a rabbi ever washing their disciples' feet.
- d. Even though He knew Judas would betray Him, Jesus still washed his feet (vv. 10-11).

**Peter: The Object Lesson for Objection**

1. Peter's resistance to Jesus' servitude is most likely rooted in how highly he esteemed Jesus and not merely in his own pride. However, it is spiritually \_\_\_\_\_. We are in no place to tell Jesus how to work in our life.
2. Peter's statement in v. 9 shows he understood that Jesus was speaking metaphorically about \_\_\_\_\_ cleansing.

3. How does Jesus "wash" us? We only receive all that Jesus offers (e.g., forgiveness, indwelling presence, eternal life) by \_\_\_\_\_ with Him (cf. John 6:53-56). Uniting with Him cleanses us from our sins, initially and continually. How are we united with Jesus?
  - a. By hearing and believing His \_\_\_\_\_ (John 15:3).
  - b. By our faith in His crucifixion & resurrection (1 Corinthians 6:11; Hebrews 1:3; Titus 2:14).
  - c. By \_\_\_\_\_ (turning) from self-direction to His leadership (Acts 2:38; 3:19).
  - d. By baptism into Him- (Acts 2:38; 22:16).
  - e. By habitual repentance and \_\_\_\_\_ of sin (1 John 1:9).

**Us: The Hands and Feet of Jesus**

1. Although John omits it from his account, Luke records that in the solemnness of this sacred moment, the disciples revert to form and begin to argue amongst themselves (Luke 22:24-27). This is the third time Jesus deals with this similar argument about position, privilege, and power (e.g., Matthew 18:1-5; Mark 10:32-45). Instead of simply defining \_\_\_\_\_ in the Kingdom, Jesus demonstrates it.
2. Jesus clearly explains His actions are the example of \_\_\_\_\_. His disciples must practice. His clarification of this act as an example does not limit such service to only foot washing. As Jesus has served us, we are to serve others. This is not optional for anyone who calls Him Lord and learns from Him as Teacher.
  - a. Verse 3 provides two key foundations for understanding how and why we serve as Jesus served:
    - i. Jesus was sent on \_\_\_\_\_ by His Father. We are sent on mission by Jesus.
    - ii. He would return to the Father's presence. Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ with us (Matthew 28:20; Galatians 4:6). Good works are part of our purpose (Ephesians 2:10).
  - b. Jesus knew His purpose and place in God's plan – this knowledge empowered Him to act for God's favor, not the opinions and impressions of others. This means we can risk...
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_ – God's favor is more important.
    - ii. Being \_\_\_\_\_ – God knows.
    - iii. Being taken advantage of – The issue is \_\_\_\_\_ we serve, not \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. In a world of authority, hierarchy, place, privilege, image, and power, Jesus says to love, serve, humble yourself, give, sacrifice. As our *"Lord and Teacher,"* this is how we follow.