

December 9, 2018

John 13:1-38

Humility and Betrayal

Has a close friend ever betrayed you? Has anyone ever been “out to get you?” It really hurt, didn’t it?

How did your relationship with that person change? Have you held onto hard feelings toward him or her, or do you simply try to avoid and ignore them? Or would you, on the other hand, go out of your way to purposely do something nice for that person?

In this week’s lesson you will discover that Jesus demonstrated humility toward His disciples by washing their feet. Think about the people whose feet Jesus humbly washed:

- Judas, who would soon betray Him.
- Peter, who would soon deny Him.
- The other disciples, who (except for John) would soon abandon Him in His time of trouble.

Read **John 13:1-38** to discover ways Jesus demonstrated humility toward those who would soon betray and hurt Him.

John 13:1 What did Jesus know?

How did He feel toward His disciples?

John 13:2 Who inspired Judas to betray Jesus?

John 13:3-5 What did Jesus do?

Foot washing was a customary courtesy in ancient times because roads were dirt and people wore sandals. Usually the lowliest household servant washed the feet of the guests.

John 13:6-10 Peter initially refused to let Jesus wash his feet, but when Jesus told him it was necessary to have fellowship with Him, what did Peter say?

To the Christian the symbolism of verse 10 is clear. When we are saved, we are completely washed clean of sins. As we walk through this wicked world, however, we sin and get spiritually “dirty.” Thus we need to regularly confess our sins and have our “feet” cleaned.

John 13:11 What did Jesus know?

John 13:12-17 Jesus wanted the disciples to understand His actions. What did He want them to learn?

John 13:18 Jesus quoted **Psalm 41:9**. What did He say one of His disciples would do?

- John 13:19** Why did He tell them this?
- John 13:21** What did Jesus announce to the group?
- John 13:22-25** The disciples were very curious, so John (the disciple “*whom Jesus loved*”) asked Jesus who would do such a terrible thing.
- John 13:26** How did Jesus answer John?
What did He give Judas?
- John 13:27** What happened after Judas ate the sop?
What did Jesus tell Judas?
- John 13:28** Did the other disciples understand what was happening?
- John 13:29** What did they think Jesus wanted Judas to do?
- John 13:30** What did Judas do?
- John 13:34** What new commandment did Jesus give them?
- John 13:35** What does loving one another show the world?
- John 13:36-37** Peter was concerned that Jesus said He was going away and they could not follow Him. What did Peter boldly promise Jesus?
- John 13:38** What did Jesus tell Peter?

Concluding Thoughts: Jesus humbly washed the feet of Judas, the very man who was about to **betray** Him so He could be put to death. Remember that Jesus knew what Judas was about to do (**John 6:70; 13:1-2, 11**).

Jesus humbly washed the feet of Peter, who was about to **deny** that he even knew Him. Jesus humbly washed the feet of the other disciples, all of whom (except John) were about to **abandon** Him.

Jesus humbly stooped down to the ground, took the job of a lowly servant, and did something kind for people who would soon betray, deny, and abandon Him.

Has anyone ever hurt you? Did you try to “get even” with that person or did you just avoid and ignore him or her?

Do you think you could do what Jesus did – be a humble servant to someone who has betrayed or hurt you? That is what Jesus did, telling the disciples to follow His example (verse 15) and to love one another (verse 34).

Will you obey Jesus' commands? If so, ask God to enable you to show humility and love toward those who have hurt or disappointed you.

Project: Memorize **John 14:6**. Do something nice for someone who has chosen to be your enemy, or for someone who has disappointed or hurt you.