

The Greatest Friend You'll Ever Have

I. It's not easy watching Jesus wash these feet.

- A. The disciples should be washing His feet.
 - Nathanael • Andrew
- B. Rather than serve, they argue over which one is the greatest... Lk. 22:24
 1. As they argue the basin sits empty in the corner, untouched.
 2. But no one moves except Jesus.
- C. It's not right.
 1. Isn't it enough that these hands will be pierced in the morning?
 2. And the disciples... do they deserve to have their feet washed?
- D. We want to say... look at John, Jesus.
 - And James! • Philip • Peter
 1. When you were about to be stoned in Nazareth, did they come to your defense?
 2. When the Pharisees took up rocks to kill you, did they volunteer to take your place?

II. Look around the table, Jesus.

- A. Out of the twelve, how many will stand with you in Pilate's court?
 1. Don't wash their feet, Jesus.
 2. Tell them to wash yours.
- B. That's what we want to say.
 1. Why? Because of the injustice?
 - Because we don't want to see our King behaving as a servant?.
 - God on His hands and knees, His hair hanging around His face?
 2. Do we object because we don't want to see God washing feet?
 - Or do we object because we don't want to do the same?
- C. Don't we have some people like the disciples in our world?
 - Vows forgotten-Contracts abandoned.Logic says: "Put up your fists"- Jesus says: "Fill up the basin"
Logic says: "Bloody up his nose" - Jesus says: "Wash his feet"
Logic says: She doesn't deserve it" - Jesus Says: "You're right, but you don't either"
- D. I don't understand how God could be so kind to us, but he is.
 1. He kneels before us, takes our feet in His hands, and washes them.
 2. Please understand that in washing the disciples' feet, Jesus is washing ours.

III. You and I are in the story.

- A. That's us being cleansed, not from our dirt, but from our sins.
 1. Listen to what Jesus said: "If I don't wash your feet, you are not one of my people"
Jn. 13:8
 2. Jesus did not say, "If you don't wash your feet"
 3. Why not? Because we cannot.
 - We cannot cleanse our own filth.
 - We cannot remove our own sin.
 - Our feet must be in His hands.
- B. To place our feet in the basin of Jesus is to place the filthiest parts of our lives into His hands
 1. In the Ancient East, people's feet were caked with mud and dirt.
 2. Jesus is assuming the role of the servant.
 3. He will wash the grimmest part of your life. If you let Him.
- C. The water of the Servant comes only when we confess that we are dirty.
 1. What a lie! If we say we have no sin, we are fooling ourselves and the truth is not in us. 1Jn. 1:8
 2. We will never be cleansed until we confess we are dirty.
 3. We will never be pure unless we admit we are filthy.

4. And we will never be able to wash the feet of those who have hurt us until we allow Jesus, the one we have hurt, to wash ours.

Conclusion: You see, that is the secret of forgiveness.

A. You will never forgive anyone more than God has already forgiven you.

1. Only by letting Him wash your feet can you have strength to wash those of another.

B. Still hard to imagine?

1. If so, go one more time to the room. Jn. 13:12 “When He had finished washing their feet...”

- Please note, He *finished* washing their feet. that means He left no one out.

2. He washed the feet of Judas.

- Jesus washed the feet of His betrayer.

- He gave His traitor equal attention.

C. In just a few hours, Judas’ feet would guide the Roman guard to Jesus.

1. But at this moment, they are caressed by Christ

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