

Jesus Getting Us Ready – John 13:3-10

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Cultural Context: During Biblical times, the common foot ware was a sandal and the common mode of travel was walking on unpaved dirt roads. This meant that people often had dirt covered feet that would need to be cleaned once they entered a home. Although this made foot washing an important act of hospitality, the task was almost always given to the lowest level servant in the household.

Background Information:

- Jesus is preparing to eat his final Passover meal with the Twelve Disciples as our lesson opens
- Judas Iscariot has already betrayed Jesus

Going Deep:

1. Name the feelings and thoughts that are probably rushing through Peter as Jesus comes to wash his feet.

2. Why do you think we're told what Jesus knew before we're told what he does for the Twelve?

3. It's very rare for Jesus to do something outside of the norm with the Twelve that isn't also designed to teach them an important lesson. What do you think Jesus is trying to us and the Twelve about service when he washes their feet?

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4. Some scholars believe Peter's request to have his hands and head washed is a sign of him wanting to be given special treatment. Other scholars believe the request is a sign that Peter wants extra assurance that he truly belongs to Jesus. Which seems most likely to you and why do you feel this way?

5. In order to wash the disciples' feet, Jesus has to let go of some of the honor that his office of teacher and mentor affords. When Jesus does this, he is able to offer honor to others. What's one thing that you have earned that you could lay aside for a time so that you can be used by God to lift up someone else?

6. Does knowing who you are in God make it easier to do what you need to do for God? If so, how so?
