

John Study – The Greatest Hits Series
Invitation into Servant Leadership
John 13:1-20
March 15/16

Icebreaker Question: Have you ever witnessed a leader or someone in authority do something surprisingly humble? How did people react?

Read John 13:1-20

Discussion Questions:

1. Whether this passage is familiar to you or not, take a moment to picture the scene. What might this meal together have looked like? (What are they commemorating? Where are they? Who is present? What are feet like? How might they feel after their dramatic entrance and Jesus' confusing prophecy in John 12?)
2. Jesus often uses everyday objects or practices to teach spiritual lessons. Why do you think He chose foot washing in this moment?
3. In verses 6-8, Peter resists Jesus washing his feet. Why do you think he had such a strong reaction? Have you ever struggled to receive something from Jesus?
4. Jesus tells Peter in verse 8, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." What does this mean spiritually? How does this relate to our need for Jesus to cleanse us?
5. In verse 14, Jesus says, "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet." What makes it difficult—both internally and externally—to live like this?
6. Who do you know that lives sacrificially serving others? What does maturity in this look like?
7. Judas was present at this moment (v. 11), yet Jesus was still washing his feet. How does this challenge us to love difficult people?

Application:

- What does it look like to be others-focused? What are some subtle signs of selfishness in our hearts and actions, and how can we shift our focus toward others?
- Where is Jesus inviting you to serve even when it feels uncomfortable?

Closing Prayer: Pray specifically for areas where you struggle to serve or love others well. Ask Jesus to give you the heart of a servant and the courage to love as He does.