



**MULTI - FUNCTION USER GROUP
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - PUBLIC DOMAIN LIBRARY
DISCOUNT BUYING SERVICE FOR HDW & SFTW**

Issue #85 - February, 1992

Editors: Lyle Marschand & James Notini

Copyright @ 1985 - 1992

Hours: Mon - Fri 11am - 7pm, Saturday 9am - 5pm CST

Single Copy: \$3.00
Membership Rates: U.S. 1st Class: \$22.00
Canada 1st Class: \$26.00
Foreign Countries: \$40.00

Continuing with our study of John chapter 13...

Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² And during supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ rose from supper, laid aside his garments, and girded himself with a towel. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter; and Peter said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not know now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part in me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but he is clean all over; and you are clean, but not all of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "You are not all clean."

¹² When he had washed their feet, and taken his garments, and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. ¹⁸ I am not speaking of you all; I know whom I have chosen; it is that the scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' ¹⁹ I tell you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives any one whom I send receives me; and he who receives me receives him who sent me."

²¹ When Jesus has thus spoken, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ²² The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. ²³ One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was lying close to the breast of Jesus; ²⁴ so Simon Peter beckoned to him and said, "Tell us who it is of whom he speaks." ²⁵ So lying thus, close to the breast of Jesus, he said to him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is he whom I shall give this morsel when I have dipped it." So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷ Then after the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." ²⁸ Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. ²⁹ Some thought that, because Judas had the money box, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the feast"; or, that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰ So, after receiving the morsel, he immediately went out; and it was night.

This section of the Gospel of John describes events immediately before Jesus' arrest, conviction and crucifixion. Hence, they should be understood closely because they are some of Jesus' final teachings and

represent principles he thought were VERY important.

The act of Jesus washing his disciples feet at first appears very strange. However, it was a Jewish custom to wash one's feet when coming into a home, before dinner, etc. since they usually were barefoot. Evidently, servants would perform this duty for the members of the house or guests. When Jesus began to do this for the disciples they must have been astonished to say the least that their teacher and master would perform such a lowly task. **Jesus, however, had a very important lesson to teach them - humbleness.** Unfortunately, man's (and woman's) nature is to be prideful. **We all, to varying degrees, are prideful.** We don't like being taken advantage of, we want to be top dog and definitely don't want to be on the bottom of the list in anything. You can even see this in children, they will argue and try to top each other (my Dad is bigger than your Dad!)

Our pride is very powerful and can lead to major problems, dividing families and friends.

Jesus was teaching us here that a leader, teacher, parent, etc. should not be above serving those they are over. In other words, don't let pride make you think you are above others and that they have their "place".

Jesus was the Son of God, a spiritual being so far above mankind that comparisons are not even understandable. Yet Jesus had a humble, servants attitude which was real, not put on.

Jesus was a living example of the principle of **"loving others more than yourself"** which is one of the key principles of God's Kingdom which Jesus came to teach. In Jesus' last days with his disciples he was teaching them a principle that is at the heart of Christian living - loving others and putting down our pride. Jesus had many teachings but this principle was central to all of them.

In fact, Jesus was the ultimate example of his own teaching on this subject. Jesus laid aside his place beside God the Father in heaven to come to earth in the "lowly" form of a human with all the limitations of a physical being. Jesus lived among his own creation for 33 years and then was wrongly convicted and sentenced to the most degrading and dehumanizing death imaginable. Do you remember Jesus' reaction to his accusers - silence. Jesus did not assert his place as the Son of God, but humbled himself in obedience to the plan of God. Jesus displayed his love for all of mankind through his suffering and death on the cross.

He bore the punishment for our sins and thus enabled us to have the benefits of eternal life in Heaven. WHAT A GIFT! Jesus truly was the living example of his teachings of loving others more than loving oneself - the opposite of pride. Won't you accept this gift of from God this Easter, which is the celebration of the death and resurrection of our Saviour. Jesus died and rose again to give us salvation and forgiveness of our sins. Go to church this Easter, confess your sins and accept Jesus' sacrifice for you.

God bless you all.

N. I. A. D. - A CHRISTIAN RUN BUSINESS