

**1** What are some of the things that Jesus knew as he prepared to eat the Passover Meal with his disciples? Read John 13:1-3 & 11.

 How does seeing Jesus' act of service through the lens of what He knew about Himself and His disciples give this story a greater impact?

 What does that mean for how you should see Jesus treating you?

**2** The world around us can deceive us into thinking that identity is found in what we have, look like or can do. We can be tempted to live like temporal differences among people can be made into vertical measures of worth and identity. Read the following truth statements from David Powlison and think through how they help you build an identity not in your characteristics or skill, but rather in what God has done for you in Christ?

1. God is the creator, and He is sovereign. He creates differences. He has chose to place us in a context where we are different from other people.

2. Providential differences are never made a vertical issue of value or stigma.

3. God shows no partiality. (Col. 3:25 and Eph. 6:9)

4. Before the living God, every one of us is "stigmatized." We are poor, strangers, weak, disabled, dying, slaves, children, sick, and refugees.

5. Identity that is built on providential differences is false. We cannot take our beauty, wit, athleticism, knowledge, etc. with us; they do not last.

6. True identity is offered to us through Jesus Christ, who redeems us by stepping down from His exalted position. He enters our plight, bears our shame, dies for our guilt, and then carries us up to share in His glory, by His mercy.

**3** In John 13:1-20, we find an incredibly powerful demonstration of love for an enemy. How does Jesus live out His own words in Matt. 5:44-45, Luke 6:27 in this story?

 Who are your enemies?

 What does it mean for you to tangibly love that person?

 What aspects of Jesus' act of washing Judas' feet can you meditate on and live out this week with them?

**4** Some churches and groups still practice foot washing today, but to institute foot washing today would be missing Jesus' primary lesson. He was not inventing a clever way to serve others; He was serving others in a very common way. Read through the following characteristics of "footwashing" service.

*Taking on a menial task or accepting a lesser role.*

*Not insisting on our "rights" or "privileges."*

*Meeting others' needs before meeting our own.*

*Looking for a job no one else will do and cheerfully doing it.*

*Focusing on the results being achieved, not who is getting credit.*

 Which is most applicable to your service right now? What would you add to the list?

 With these examples in mind, what needs to change about your service to others? Whose feet do you need to wash?

