



**Sermon: "The Serving King in the Shadow of the Cross"**

**Scripture: John 13:1-20**

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, May 6, 2018

## Introduction:

John's account of Jesus' washing the disciples' feet is not merely an account of Christ's example to be followed, but the revelation of the Savior who is be **worshipped and obeyed.**

### 1. Jesus' Knowledge Should Inspire **Worship** in His Disciples.

- a. Jesus knew the hour of His **death** was near. (v. 1)
- b. Jesus knew that His authority and power were **eternal** and **preeminent**. (v. 3)
- c. Jesus knew the pride, betrayal and weakness in the **hearts** of the disciples.
  - The disciples were considering who was first. (Luke 22:24-27)
  - One disciple had purposed to betray Him. (v. 11, 18, 21)
  - One disciple would soon deny Him. (v. 38).

**What Jesus KNEW ought to lead us to deeper worship  
What Jesus KNEW removes our **excuses** for failing to serve.**

### 2. Jesus' Example Should Motivate **Obedience** in His Disciples.

- a. Jesus Continued **Loving** Unconditionally. (v. 13, 34-35)  
*Scripture: John 1:12; 13:34-35*
- b. Jesus Faithfully Focused on Heavenly **Realities**. (v. 1, 3)  
*Scripture: Colossians 3:2*

**Focusing on heavenly realities allows us to think and act  
wisely and selflessly in **earthly** matters.**

- c. Jesus Humbly Served the Clearly **Undeserving**.

**Understanding our place in God's abiding **love**,  
frees us to put ourselves in the proper position of humble service.**

In response to Peter's brash refusal (v. 6), Jesus provided very clear teaching.

### 3. Jesus' Teaching Should Instill **Confidence** for His Disciples.

- a. Jesus Affirmed the **Exclusivity** of Salvation (v. 7-8)
- b. Jesus Emphasized the Ongoing **Need** for Sanctification (v. 9-11)
- c. Jesus Exalted the **Significance** of Servanthood (v. 12-17)
- d. Jesus Provided **Assurance** for His “Sent Ones” (v. 18-20)

### Conclusion:

- **Dead faith agrees** to the facts of what Jesus did and said.
- **Living faith acts** on the example and instruction which Jesus provided.

*Scripture: James 2:14, 26; 1 John 3:18*

---

### Questions to Consider:

1. How does the timing of this account add to the significance of the event?
  - How does that truth affect your own view towards service in the midst of suffering?
2. How does this entire passage relate to the phrase, “having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end”? (v. 1)
3. What is significant about the presence of Judas, the betrayer, at the meal? (v. 2, 10-11, 18)
4. To what does Christ’s statement, “If I do not wash you, you have no share with me,” refer?
5. What does Jesus teach about the need for sanctification? What does God use to regularly sanctify His own? (v. 9-10; See also John 17:19; Ephesians 5:26)
6. Does Jesus command to “wash one another’s feet” establish a third ordinance (communion & baptism) or a more broadly understood command?