

## **THE STORY OF FRESH FEET**

John 13:1-17

**John 1:27** "Though His ministry follows mine, I'm not even worthy to be His slave and untie the straps of His sandals."

**Luke 22:24-27** "<sup>24</sup> Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them. <sup>25</sup> Jesus told them, "In this world the kings and great men lord it over their people, yet they are called 'friends of the people.' <sup>26</sup> **But among you it will be different.** Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant. <sup>27</sup> Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. **But not here!** For I am among you as one who serves." (NLT)

**1 John 1:9** "If we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness." (NLT)

**The Point:** Jesus EXPECTS His followers to serve like HE served.

## **CHARACTERISTICS OF CHRIST-LIKE SERVICE**

### 1. SELF-DENIAL.

**Philippians 2:3-4** "<sup>3</sup> Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Don't look out only for your own interests, but take interest in others, too." (NLT)

### 2. HUMILITY.

**1 Peter 5:5** "... all of you, dress yourself in humility as you relate to one another, for 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'" (NLT)

**1 Peter 5:5** "... all of you must put off the apron of humility, to serve one another, for the Scripture says, 'God resists the proud, but shows favor to the humble.'" (TEV)

### 3. Willingness to do MENIAL TASKS.

**Luke 9:12-13** "<sup>12</sup> Late in the afternoon the twelve disciples came to Him and said, "Send the crowds away to the nearby villages and farms, so they can find food and

lodging for the night. There is nothing to eat in this remote place.”<sup>13</sup> But Jesus said, “YOU feed them.” (NLT)

#### 4. Serving with NO LIMITS.

**Romans 12:19-21** <sup>19</sup> Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say: “I will take revenge I will pay them back,” says the Lord. <sup>20</sup> Instead, “If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads.” <sup>21</sup> Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.” (NLT)

#### 5. Motivated by LOVE.

**Galatians 5:13** “For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don’t use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.” (NLT)

### BOTTOM LINE

**Mark 10:43-45** <sup>43</sup> ... Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup> and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. <sup>45</sup> For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give His life as a ransom for many.” (NLT)

**Romans 12:10-11** <sup>10</sup> Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. <sup>11</sup> Never be lazy, but work hard and **serve the Lord enthusiastically.**” (NLT)

### COMMUNION

**Philippians 2:5-11** <sup>5</sup> You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. <sup>6</sup> Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. <sup>7</sup> Instead, He gave up His divine privileges, He took the **humble position of a slave** and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form, He humbled Himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore, God elevated Him to the place of highest honor and gave Him the name above all names, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth, and

under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (NLT)