



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Brian Bales: Lead Pastor

BIGGER : Anyone All the Time

John 13: 3-17

Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" 7 Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand 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 share with me." 9 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 10 Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you[b]are clean, but not every one of you." 11 For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean." 12 When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand 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 just as I have done to you. 16 Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

John 13:3-17

A Life Application Study Guide

James 1:22-25 tells us to put into action what we are discovering in God's word.

REVIEW

- How did God stretch you in this past week?

LESSONS TO EXPLORE

1. What makes us uncomfortable?
2. Peter's response
3. Correcting what had been misunderstood
4. Anyone-All the Time
5. 5 Principles of Transformation

INTRODUCTION

"Knowing God's word while necessary and very good is not enough. We will only be transformed when we begin to live it out."

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Pastor Brian begins with this question. "Is there a limit to who you are willing to serve or where you are willing to go and serve?" If your answer is yes, share what's behind your "yes".

- a. As we read the passage in John 13, we see Jesus doing the unconventional. What is He doing and why was He pushing back on the cultural norm of that day? Who should have been doing what He was doing and why? How did His disciples react?

- b. In Luke 22:24 we see the disciples arguing over who would be the greatest in the Kingdom to come. How did Jesus respond to the disciples? How would you explain that while they were still with Jesus, they were seeking their own glory and greatness in the future Kingdom?

- c. Look at our cultural norms today, what menial task do you actively avoid doing?

2. Peter is very verbal with Jesus as he so often was.

- a. Things were just too weird for Peter to remain silent. What were Peter's words for Jesus and what was Peter really saying to Jesus in that dialog?

- b. Can you relate to Peter and if yes, why, and how do you relate to him?

- c. Pastor Brian wants us to see that Peter is totally missing the point, what was he missing and how could this have happened?

3. Jesus corrects Peter as we read in verses 10–11. While Jesus was violating a cultural norm, there was a significant message in what He was doing in that moment. What was He modeling and what was He implying?

- a. Read 1 John 1:9 and consider Brian’s question and teaching on this passage as we continue looking at John 13. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9.

4. Jesus goes further into His teaching with His disciples and tells them who to serve and how to serve. Go back and look at your answer to 1c. The disciples would probably have been like deer in headlights as Jesus instructed them.

- a. How about you, how might you process this teaching differently as you read this passage? For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Mark 10:45

5. Brian offers 5 Principles of Transformation. Discuss the following statements and questions.

- a. Jesus measures greatness that goes against Western thinking and behavior. How have you measured greatness in the past?
- b. No one is exempt from serving. Where have you avoided serving?
- c. No one is beyond the gift of being served. Who comes to mind that does not merit being served? Why?
- d. When we understand our God given identity we can serve with our whole heart. How have you experienced this in your life?
- e. Allow another to serve you. Why might being served be a challenge for you? Remember Peter's discomfort?

Making it Real

- *Ask God to stretch you this week and place you where you can serve some one that you have previously avoided serving.*

