

Adapted from Lifeway's Explore the Bible Curriculum

Bible Passage: John 12:12-13:15

Memory Verse: John 17:3

Text Truth: Jesus loved and served others.

Christ in Context: The Book of John reveals Jesus as the Word of God who became flesh. Jesus used the personal name of God, I am, seven times in the Gospel to declare that He is God. John's Gospel describes the eternal, all-knowing, ever-present, and all powerful nature of Christ.

"Jesus' Last Week" Story Paraphrase

Jesus and His disciples walked toward Jerusalem. A large crowd gathered.

The people took palm branches and went to meet Jesus on the road. The people shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a young donkey as the prophet Zechariah had prophesied long ago. People has seen Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead and were talking about it. The religious leaders were upset that the people were following Jesus.

Later Jesus and the disciples were in a room in Jerusalem. Jesus knew that soon He would have to leave the disciples. Jesus loved the disciples and He wanted them to understand how to serve other people.

After supper, Jesus stood up and got a towel. He poured water into a bowl and began to wash and dry the disciples' feet.

When Jesus came to Peter, Peter asked, "Lord, are You going to wash my feet?"

Jesus told Peter, "What I am doing, you will not understand now. Later you will understand. "

When Jesus had washed all of their feet, He asked them, "Do you know what I have done for you?"

"I have given you an example. You should do what I have done for you."

Key Points

- We should want to praise God more than anyone else in our lives
- Jesus showed us His love and humility by doing the job of a servant.
- We should see everyone as people Jesus died to save instead of seeing ourselves as more important than some people.

Examine the Text

Read John 13:1 and share that Jesus loved His disciples and He was about to show them just how much He loved them.

- Ask: "How did Jesus show His disciples how much He loved them? By washing their feet. He took off His robe, and He got ready to get wet.
- Say: "Yes, Jesus loved and served others. He loved people by serving them."

Invite your child to share ways they can show their love for others by serving them.

Conclude: "Do you think Jesus just loved and served His disciples? No! Jesus washed Judas' feet even though He knew Judas would betray Him. When we follow Jesus' example it's important for us not only to love people who are like us and are easy to love, but also to love and serve people who are different than us who might even be difficult to love.

Closing: Pray as a family, asking God for opportunities to love and serve the people we see interact with this week. Use specific names that were mentioned by kids.