

**Sermon-Based Questions**  
**May 19, 2019**  
**Dave Gustavsen**

**Life on Purpose**  
**SERVE THE WORLD**  
John 13:1-17

**Introduction (choose 1):**

1. In your town, what is considered to be a sign of high position or status?
2. When have you been the most impressed by the customer service you have received at a commercial establishment?

**Understanding (choose 4-6):**

3. Luke 22:24 mentions a dispute that occurred at the same meal described in today's passage.
  - How does the dispute explain how none of the disciples volunteered to wash feet?
  - When and why do you feel in competition with other believers?
  - Is there anything in our culture that fires up our desire to be served?
4. Pastor Dave stated "If we are following Jesus Christ, we will often do things that seem strange to our culture. Be suspicious of a Christianity that just embraces whatever is trendy in culture, and puts a Christian label on it. There was a different-ness to Jesus, and there should be a different-ness to us. "In what ways do you think our church is pursuing this?"
5. Read John 13:3.
  - What did Jesus know about who he was and who he belonged to?
  - What do you know about who you are and who you belong to?
  - What difference does that make in your life?
6. Read John 13:7-8. What is the deeper meaning here for Peter beyond mere foot washing? What is the deeper meaning for us beyond merely doing good deeds?
7. Jesus has a call to action in John 13:14. What are the modern equivalents of foot-washing—dirty, undesirable jobs that Jesus would probably do if he were here in your own life?
8. Read Titus 3:4-8. How has Jesus washed us?

**Application:**

9. Jesus calls us to *especially* serve people who we might feel are somehow beneath us. This may include people who our society says are *socially* below us. Who are those people in your life? What would it mean to serve them? (Consider that Richard Foster said, "One of the greatest expressions of love is simply to notice people and pay attention to them.")
10. Did Jesus refuse to wash Judas' feet? What does that say about our deciding who deserves to be served ?
11. What is the connection between taking communion and how, at the very end of today's passage, Jesus says: "Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

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### Lectio Divina

1. **Opening Prayer:** Ask God for insight into His Word, for open hearts and minds, for hunger to know Him better, and for an attitude of learning from one another.
2. **Reading:** Have someone from your group read the passage aloud. It is best to print out a copy for each group member so they can read along, make notes, or go back as needed.
3. **Meditation:** Spend *an entire minute in complete silence*, contemplating what was just read. Feel free to re-read the passage quietly to yourself or jot down thoughts/highlight what stuck out to you.
4. **Sharing:** At the leader's signal, invite group members to share their insights for about 5 minutes.
5. **Repeat:** After the 5 minutes are over, repeat the process 2 more times using the same passage. Listen/read like you haven't heard this passage before. If there are longer moments of silence, the leader can prompt discussion with the following questions:
  1. What did you hear and what seems important?
  2. What is the Holy Spirit impressing on you?
  3. What does it make you think of from your life?

Philippians 2:1-4

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,<sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,<sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Luke 22:24-27

<sup>24</sup> A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest.

<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors.<sup>26</sup> But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves.<sup>27</sup> For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,

<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 acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.