

Curious About Kurios?

Rev. Carl Griffin | November 12, 2017
John 13:12–17

Personal Connection (25 minutes)

Icebreaker

“Do as I say, not as I do!” We have all been in situations where we have expressed an ideal or instruction to someone, but when the time comes to model those instructions, we forget our own advice! Share a time in your life when you forgot to follow your own advice.

Ups and Downs

Q. How was your walk last week? Were you able to dedicate some time to read the Bible daily? Share with the group some of your insights and offer God the glory he deserves.

Praying for each other

Reflect on the questions above and share with the group. Pray for spiritual strength and guidance to grow in areas of vulnerability.

Sharing Christ

Q. Is there someone with whom God is leading you to share Christ?

Review Last Sunday's *What Now?*

Last week we discussed surrendering our anger and grief to the Lord, allowing him to heal our hearts and demonstrate forgiveness to others as he has forgiven us.

Q. Have you had any success with forgiving someone who has hurt you deeply? Share as you feel comfortable.

Digging Deeper (30 minutes)

This Week's Key Concept:

We are to model Christ's love to others in our words and in our actions.

Read John 13:12–17

In Jesus' day and culture, not only did they travel the terrain in sandals, but their tables were very low to the ground. Having dirty feet close to the food they ate made it customary to wash their feet before dinner. In richer households, there were servants or slaves who would wash guests' and occupants' feet. In poorer households, the occupants and guests were expected to wash their own feet.

Q. Have you ever done something for someone that you secretly felt was beneath you or that the person didn't deserve?

When Jesus washed the disciples' feet, they were shocked. They did not yet comprehend that he was God incarnate but, as his disciples, they knew they should be washing his feet, instead.

Q, Have you ever been in a situation similar to this, where you knew it was your role to do something, but someone else graciously stepped forward to do it, instead? How did that make you feel?

In verses 12–16, after Jesus washes the disciples' feet, he tells them they should do the same for each other and follow his example.

Q. In modern times, what would be an example of “washing someone’s feet”?

Read John 3:22–30

John the Baptist was baptizing people in the Judean countryside, and his disciples came forward to tell him that Jesus' baptisms had a larger following. John's disciples were jealous of the popularity Jesus was gaining, but John replied:

“No one can receive anything unless God gives it from heaven. You yourselves know how plainly I told you, ‘I am not the Messiah. I am only here to prepare the way for him. It is the bridegroom who marries the bride, and the best man is simply glad to stand with him and hear his vows. Therefore, I am filled with joy at his success. He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.’ ”

Q. Have you ever been jealous of someone who has had the same talents as you or that you worked with on a team?

Typically, when someone expresses joy for someone else's successes, there is love in their heart for that person.

Q. How can we better show love to our brothers and sisters in Christ in their moments of success?

Q. How would seeing others as created in the image of God, help you value them properly? How would seeing yourself as created in God's image, help you value yourself properly?

Impact Questions

Q. How do you think your spirit of worship, thanksgiving, and love towards others and your Savior would be impacted if you gave God the credit, instead of yourself?

We can bow in humility before the Lord only when we recognize that our worth lies in him, not in ourselves. God created humans in his image, imparting dignity to us all. With a humble heart, we open ourselves to discerning God's direction for our life.

James 4:10 (NLT) — *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.*

What now? (15 minutes)

This week, practice humility. Pray to the Lord, asking him to reveal what that would look like in your life, and start with small steps. Pride is the root of many sins and cannot be overcome without the Lord's help. Seek his guidance, and trust that he will give you the wisdom to overcome any obstacles.

Closing Prayer (15 minutes)

Please share your prayer requests and praises, so that your LIFE Group may lift you up, in prayer. Please pray for expanding Christ's Kingdom through your relationships, in our congregation, to the community, and in distant places.