

Difference Maker

Serve Us to Service

September 18, 2016 / Dan Solofra

¹ It was just before the Passover Festival. **Jesus knew that the hour had come** for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, **he loved them to the end.** John 13:1, NIV

Jesus' was taking his love to the _____.

² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ **Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God;** ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. John 13:2-5, NIV

On the most stressful night of his life, Jesus _____ on his _____ with the Father. This focus prompted him to acts of _____.

⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "**Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.**" ⁹ "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!" John 13:6-9, NIV

Your service must start with Jesus _____.

¹⁰ Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean,

though not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. ¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "**Do you understand what I have done for you?**" he asked them. John 13:10-12, NIV

Serve us turns to service for us when we _____ and _____ on what Jesus has done for us.

¹³ "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. John 13:13-15, NIV

Christian service comes from the _____.
Christian service is best taught by _____.

¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them. John 13:16-17, NIV

Through your service you are _____.
Christian service is something I _____ to do.
Christian service is a way I put _____ into _____.

MEMORY VERSE

¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. John 13:14, NIV

Bottom Line: Jesus loves us. He showed his love by washing feet and washing sins away. We show our love for him and others in humble acts of service.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

Growth Group Exercise 9/18 – 9/24

Difference Maker – Serve Us to Service

Getting started: What is your definition of a perfect camping trip? Sleeping underneath the stars, a camper at a campsite, or a weekend at the Holiday Inn?

My Story:

Who is the person in your life that taught you the most about serving?

Back to Sunday:

When Jesus washed the disciples feet he was “humbly loving them completely”. What does that mean?

Agree or Disagree Washing someone’s feet is how I show humble complete love today.

Digging Deeper:

Read: **Luke 19:1-10**

Describe Zacchaeus’ journey from “selfish”, to “being served” to “service”.

What prompted Zacchaeus to respond in the way that he did?

Does it surprise you that Jesus didn’t have to tell Zacchaeus to be generous? Why or Why not?

Read: **1 Peter 4:7-10**

These verses cover a number of ways that we serve each other as Christians. What are some of them?

How does your service show God’s grace?

Share a time when someone else’s service gave you encouragement and caused you to praise God.

Taking It Home:

On a scale of 1-10 how important is it that you have fun when you serve?

What is a “servant’s heart”?

How do you think a Christian develops a servant’s heart?

How does God bless you through your service?

REMINDER: If you haven’t done so already:

- 1) Go to a Volunteer Orientation offered October 2, and October 16.
- 2) Fill out the bookmark type card with ministry interests that is found in the program.
- 3) Go through a screening/ministry conversation with a member of the Volunteer Team at the Resource Center after worship.

Close with prayer