

SERVE LIKE *Jesus*

A STUDY ON FOLLOWING CHRIST'S EXAMPLE OF LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

OUR SACRIFICE *of service*



STUDY BY



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Introduction

When we think of Jesus, we often reflect on His profound teachings and miracles. However, His actions also carry deep spiritual significance. This study aims to illuminate the vital lessons embedded in John 13:1-17, where Jesus washes the feet of His disciples. By understanding the context and reflecting on the inherent truths in this passage, we can apply its lessons to our daily lives.



Chapter 1: Understanding Service

Scripture Reflection: John 13:1-17 (NKJV)

*“Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, “Lord, are You washing my feet?” Jesus answered and said to him, **“What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.”** Peter said to Him, **“You shall never wash my feet!”** Jesus answered him, **“If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”** Simon Peter said to Him, **“Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!”** Jesus said to him, **“He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.”** For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, **“You are not all clean.”** So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, **“Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.”***

In this passage, Jesus demonstrates that serving others is a vital part of His ministry. He actively chooses to wash His disciples' feet - a task typically reserved for the lowest servant.

How do we **apply this in our life today:**

- 1. Be Observant:** Like Jesus, pay attention to the details in your environment. Look for needs that may go unnoticed.
- 2. Step in When Needed:** If you identify a gap - be it a dirty floor or an unwelcoming atmosphere - take action to fill it.

What is the vital key in the Kingdom of God presented in this Scripture?

Why did Jesus suggest that Peter only needed his feet washed?

Reflect on how Judas allowed the enemy to influence him.



Chapter 2: The Call to Serve

Scripture Meditation: Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

This foundational scripture outlines our response to God's mercy. By offering ourselves in service, we embody the heart of Christ.

How do we apply this in our life today:

- 1. Identify Your Gifts:** Willingly look at how God has uniquely equipped you for service.
- 2. Engage in Community:** Serve within your church or community. Whether it's helping with clean-up after an event or volunteering at a local shelter, small acts contribute significantly.

What does it mean to you to offer your body as a living sacrifice?

In what ways can you conform to God's good, pleasing, and perfect will?

Chapter 3: Equal Servants in Christ

Ephesians 4:7 (NIV)

“But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.”

Acknowledging that everyone has a role in the body of Christ encourages us to serve without feeling lesser or greater than one another.

How do we **apply this in our life today:**

- 1. Perform Small Acts of Kindness:** Like picking up trash, each small act of service counts.
- 2. Value Every Role:** Whether you're a leader or a servant, every action contributes to the fulfillment of God's mission.

How do you define true service in the context of the body of Christ?

Are there instances in your life where you hesitated to serve because it felt beneath you?



Chapter 4: Living Out Our Faith Daily

Jesus endured unimaginable sacrifice for our sake. As followers, our service should reflect that spirit of selflessness.

How do we **apply this in our life today:**

- 1. Daily Reminders:** Start each day with a prayer asking God to reveal opportunities for service.
- 2. Make It Intentional:** Create a list of ways you can serve in your community, and commit to engaging in these actions regularly.

Say This:

“I serve like Jesus. I notice the gaps and fill them without seeking recognition.”

Conclusion

As we conclude this journey through understanding Jesus' call to service, let us remember the significance of our actions. Prayerfully commit to embodying this spirit in your daily life.

Prayer of Commitment:

“Father, thank You for saving me. You’ve called me to serve, and today I dedicate my life to honor You through my service. Just as Jesus humbled Himself to wash His disciples’ feet, I choose to humble myself to love and serve others.

Teach me to see every opportunity to serve as an act of worship to You. Remove pride, selfishness, and fear from my heart, and replace them with compassion, humility, and courage. Let my words bring life, my hands bring help, and my presence bring hope to those around me.

When it is difficult, remind me of Christ’s example. When I feel unseen, remind me that You see every act done in love. When I grow weary, strengthen me by Your Spirit so that I may not give up.

Lord, may my service always reflect Your heart. Use me to advance Your Kingdom, to comfort the hurting, to uplift the weary, and to point others to Jesus. I dedicate all that I am and all that I do for Your glory.

In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

By recognizing and embracing our role as servants of Christ, we can make a meaningful impact in our communities and to those we encounter.

Jesus is our ultimate example of service and love. As we follow Him, let us choose to fill the gaps we see in our homes, communities, and churches, ensuring that we honor Him in all we do.

Thank you for embarking on this journey of deeper understanding and commitment to serve like Jesus. Remember, no service is too small when done in love!

Allan Bagg and his wife, **Janine**, are the founding and senior pastors of The Bay Christian Family Church, the home of **Allan Bagg Ministries**.

Together, they are dedicated to equipping the saints for the work of ministry, building up the body of Christ, and teaching God's people how to live in His prosperity.



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