

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

GOD BECAME MAN

WEEK 22

February 28 & March 1

Me Too ... Others First

This sermon study is designed to be used the week after the sermon it supplements. Before using the study in your life group, it might be helpful to work through the questions on your own before your group meets. The purpose of this guide is to help facilitate discussion and to help your group, collectively and individually, grow closer to Jesus.

SERIES RECAP

Back in August, we started going through the gospel of John and left off in chapter 9. John's gospel is unique from Matthew, Mark and Luke in that John was one of Jesus' first followers and closest friends, and was written around A.D. 85. In his writing, John's primary aim is to persuade skeptics that Jesus is the Christ and the Son of God (20:30-31).

SERMON SUMMARY

Each step we take in the gospel of John leads us to the cross. This week in John 13, we get to witness a private dinner between Jesus and His disciples. Jesus does something in this passage that is peculiar and challenging, and we're left with a decision: are we willing to follow Jesus' example?

MAIN TEXT

John 13:1-35

GETTING STARTED

In your opinion, what is the most humbling job you've ever had?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read John 13:1-35 out loud as a group. What was the act of washing feet like in Jesus' day? Was it common to wash feet during a meal, and who was primarily responsible for this task? Why is this so significant?
2. Why do you think Peter initially objects to Jesus washing his feet? In what way(s) have you acted similarly to Peter by putting up boundaries or

guidelines on your relationship with Jesus?

3. What did Jesus say in verse 8 that changes Peter's mind? What would the same comment by Jesus mean for you right now?
4. Read Hebrews 10:10 and 10:14. In the past, have you felt obligated to "reapply" for salvation every time you've sinned? If so, why? In what way(s) do these verses in Hebrews and Jesus' conversation with Peter reassure you of your salvation?
5. Jesus showed us that success is not found in status, but in service. Think of a time when you achieved success in the world and how it made you feel. Compare that to a time when you served someone else and how you felt afterward. What was the difference between these two experiences?
6. In this passage, Jesus commanded His disciples to love one another just as He loved them. What examples of love did Jesus model during His time on earth that set a benchmark for how we should love one another? How does Jesus' washing Judas' feet demonstrate how we should love our enemies?
7. This weekend, we learned that grace and truth equal love. How does a grace-exclusive love differ from a truth-exclusive love? Why are both of these equally crucial in order to properly love someone?

NEXT STEPS

Jesus was willing to get on His knees and wash the feet of His disciples, a task that He could've been superior to or delegated to someone else.

What does this mean for your life? Think of someone in your life who doesn't know the love of Christ. How can you serve him or her this week? Partner up with someone and hold each other accountable for reaching out to that person and serving him or her.