

# come and see

## ***Week 10: He Loved Them to the Very End***

*John 13: 1-38*

### **Summary**

Jesus is the visible image of the invisible God (Colossians 1). This reality gives the Jesus stories and teaching profound power. In John 13:1-38, Jesus takes up a basin and a towel and performs a duty reserved for the lowest servants in first-century Palestine. “The firstborn of all creation” (Colossians 1, again) on his knees dealing with the day’s muck and the mire of his disciples’ feet. In some ways, this act of washing the disciples’ feet messed with the image of God of his disciples and his earliest followers. By performing this humble task, Jesus exemplifies servant leadership and redefines greatness through love and service. Amidst a rich, multifaceted story, part of what Jesus is doing is teaching us to prioritize humility and compassion in our own lives. Today, we are called to extend love and service to others, breaking down social barriers and demonstrating grace in our interactions.

### **REFLECTION QUESTIONS:**

#### **For you**

1. What sacrificial acts of devotion can I offer to others in my daily life?
2. How can I embody servant leadership in my community?
3. What barriers can I break down to serve others better?
4. A Spiritual Practice to try: Breath Prayers
  - a. Sit quietly and comfortably. Start by praying for God to lead you and guide you.
  - b. Close your eyes and breathe deeply and slowly.
  - c. With each inhale breath, pray “Spirit of the Christ.”
  - d. With each exhale breath, pray “Bring me back to life...”
  - e. Rest in the presence of the all-loving God. Stay open to the Holy Spirit’s guidance.
  - f. After a while, simply end by telling God “thank you” for his ability to revive.

#### **For your work**

1. Who in my work life needs an act of love or service today?
2. In our workplace, how can we cultivate a servant leadership approach by prioritizing the needs of our team and colleagues? How could our team—and everyone we touch—foster a collaborative environment where everyone experiences the support of others?
3. Deeper: Are we an environment that values humility and openness? Can we acknowledge our needs (or even mistakes)? Can we learn from others, regardless of their position?
4. Pray together toward this sort of others-focused work environment centered on Jesus.

continued below...

**For students** (questions to have in your ‘back pocket’)

1. In John 13, Jesus took on the role of a literal servant (to wash feet). What does sacrificial love look like for you in your life?
2. Who in your life is most difficult to imagine sacrificing for?
3. Where do you think Bethel can go deeper in cultivating a culture that thinks of the needs of others first?

How is this resource working for you? How is God using it to form you? Are there ways we can improve it? How can we pray for you? If you’ve got questions or thoughts, we invite you to be in touch with us. Send us an email at [campus-ministries@bethel.edu](mailto:campus-ministries@bethel.edu)

*[click here for the week 10 discovery bible study](#)*



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