

John 13:1-21 || Lessons in Love and Humility

La Mirada Christian Church – August 25, 2024

Use this fill-in-the-blank outline as you listen to the message. The first letter of each missing word is provided to help you.

1. "God's days, God's weeks, God's months, God's seasons, His _____—not ours. The time is now, though, and there's a sense of _____." (h, u)
2. "Complete _____, emptying yourself of your _____, your rights, what you think you deserve, is the only way to complete _____." (h, n, l)
3. "Jesus loved them to the _____. And yet, we have to say what the disciples did. You know, we know this isn't the _____. It wasn't the _____. It's not the _____, disciples." (e, e, e, e)
4. "We might think of the _____, and that's true, but His love is here in the upper room. Jesus, the image of the invisible _____, disrobed, leaving the seat of _____, on bended knee in gentle _____, holding the _____ of His disciples and _____ them in this way." (c, G, h, s, f, w)
5. "He loved them to the _____. He loved them with a greater _____, a more beautiful _____ than anyone could. And that great and that beautiful _____ would soon be on _____." (e, l, l, l, d)
6. "Jesus is not an innocent _____ of an evil plot. This moment was in the perfect _____ of the Father. If that is sufficient for Jesus, how much more should it be for us?" (v, t)
7. "Jesus _____ us. You cannot, I cannot be enough. We are not _____, contrary to what the T-shirts might say. The world says you are _____. It's the exact opposite of God's _____." (w, e, e, W)
8. "Jesus' example of washing Judas' _____ challenges me, challenges us, to _____ and to _____ even those who may hurt us. It's a reminder that our _____ is not dependent on the actions of others." (f, l, s, f)
9. "Maybe this is the day that you release your grip of _____ against someone, your sense of _____, of what you deserve, and instead _____ with humility." (r, e, s)

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Click [HERE](#) to listen to/watch the message or go to:

<https://www.jennifergrichmond.com/teaching/john-13-1-21-from-the-table-to-the-cross-love-that-knows-no-end/>

Day 1: The Hour Has Come

Scripture Reading: John 13:1-5

Focus Verses:

"Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end." - John 13:1

From the Sermon:

"Jesus knew His time on earth was drawing to a close. Despite the weight of what lay ahead, His focus was on loving His disciples completely. The phrase 'He loved them to the end' reveals the depth and commitment of Jesus' love. He didn't just love in word, but in action, showing us that true love is demonstrated through selfless service."

Meditation:

- Think about what it means that Jesus knew His time was almost up and still chose to show love to His disciples. How does "He loved them to the end" make you feel about His commitment to you?

- Consider how knowing He was about to leave made Jesus focus even more on loving those around Him. What does this tell you about His love for you?

Application:

- Write down areas in your life where you need to express love more fully, even in challenging circumstances.

- Spend time in prayer, asking God to help you love others as Jesus loved His disciples, with an enduring and sacrificial love. Write your prayer below:

Dwell Deeply:

- Find a quiet spot and ask God to show you how you can love the people around you better. Listen for His guidance and write down what you feel led to do. As you reflect, read 1 John 4:7-12, which speaks about God's love for us and our call to love others. You might also look at John 15:12-13, where Jesus talks about the greatest love being to lay down one's life for friends.

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Day 2: Humility in Action

Scripture Reading: John 13:6-11

Focus Verses:

"Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet." - John 13:5

from the Sermon:

"In this moment, Jesus, who had all authority and power, chose to serve His disciples by performing the humble task of washing their feet. His actions flipped the world's understanding of greatness on its head. True greatness, according to Jesus, is found in humility and service. This act challenges us to rethink our own understanding of leadership and power."

Meditation:

- Think about how surprising it is that Jesus, who had all the power, chose to wash His disciples' feet. How does this change the way you see greatness and leadership?

- Remember Peter's reaction when Jesus tried to wash his feet. Do you ever feel awkward or uncomfortable when someone tries to help you? Why do you think that is?

Application:

- Think about an area in your life where you can help someone without expecting anything in return. Write down one thing you can do this week to serve someone else.

- Pray and ask God to help you be more humble, like Jesus, and to serve others even when it's uncomfortable.

Dwell Deeply:

- Spend a few moments thinking about how you can make serving others a regular part of your life. What small steps can you take to start living this out every day? As you reflect, read Philippians 2:3-8, which talks about Jesus' humility and how we should have the same mindset. You can also read Mark 10:42-45, where Jesus teaches about serving others as the true path to greatness.

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Day 3: Following Jesus' Example

Scripture Reading: John 13:12-17

Focus Verses:

"If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet." - John 13:14

from the Sermon:

"Jesus calls you to follow His example of humility and service. This isn't just about one act of kindness—it's a way of life. Remember that following Jesus means living a life of love and service, even when it's hard or goes against what the world tells you."

Meditation:

- Think about Jesus' challenge to follow His example. How can you start to live like Jesus did, serving others and putting their needs first?
- Think about the connection between doing what Jesus says and finding true happiness. How does helping others make you feel fulfilled and joyful?.

Application:

- Think about someone who could use a helping hand this week. Make a plan to do something nice for them, following Jesus' example of service.
- Write a simple prayer asking God to help you make serving others a regular part of your life, just like Jesus did.

Dwell Deeply:

- Take some time to thank Jesus for showing you what it means to serve others. Let this inspire you to look for ways to help and serve people every day. As you reflect, read James 2:14-17, which talks about faith being shown through actions, and 1 Peter 4:10-11, which encourages using our gifts to serve others faithfully.

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Day 4: Betrayal and Faithfulness

Scripture Reading: John 13:18-21

Focus Verses:

"I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he." - John 13:18-19

from the Sermon:

"Jesus knew Judas would betray Him, yet He still washed his feet and included him in this moment. This reminds us that Jesus' love is not dependent on our faithfulness. His love remains constant, even when others fail us or when we fail Him. Jesus' example challenges us to remain faithful, trusting in God's plan, even when we face betrayal or hurt."

Meditation:

- Reflect on the fact that Jesus knew He was going to be betrayed by someone close to Him. How does this affect your understanding of Jesus' love and commitment, even to those who turn against Him?
- Consider how Jesus' awareness of the coming betrayal didn't stop Him from fulfilling His mission. What does this teach you about faithfulness in the face of challenges and disappointments?.

Application:

- Think about a time when someone let you down or hurt you. How can you respond with grace and faithfulness, following Jesus' example?
- Pray for the strength to remain faithful to God's calling in your life, even when you face challenges or betrayals.

Dwell Deeply:

- Spend time reflecting on Psalm 41:9, which speaks of betrayal by a close friend, and Romans 12:19-21, which encourages us to overcome evil with good. Let these passages guide you as you think about how to respond to betrayal and how to trust in God's justice and plan.

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Conclusion:

Remember that Jesus showed us what it really means to love, to be humble, to serve, and to remain faithful even in the face of betrayal. Keep thinking about these verses and let them guide how you treat others. Whether you're learning to love more deeply, practicing humility, serving others, or staying faithful despite challenges, know that Jesus is with you, helping you every step of the way.