

Love's Humility

John 13:1-17

Introduction: 13:1-17:26 - "Farewell Discourse"

Symbolism in Narrative

Love's Humility - John 13:1-17

Foot Washing - An argument about who is the greatest (Luke 22:24-27)

Jesus and his disciples - John 13:1-5

Precept: True love is deeply rooted in humility and true humility is exposed in acts of love.

Jesus and Peter - John 13:6-11 -

Precept: Jesus washes their feet to make two statements; first, serve each other out of love and second, be reminded that fellowship with God always involves the humility to confess our sins and live spiritually clean before God and others.

Jesus and his followers - John 13:12-17

Precept: Jesus makes it very clear that all Godly leadership is humble; it is captured in true service to others; and is the 'way' of the cross;

Conclusion: There are at least three applications in these verses:

First, Christians of high standing (in any regard) should give themselves to 'low serving' as a non-verbal presentation of the Gospel.

Second, the mind and heart behind all Christ-like service is when someone goes low, willingly, happily, joyfully so that others can be served and blessed. The right heart will always bless the service; the wrong heart will always reveal the real service.

Third, going low, serving well, for the right reasons is a primary qualification for leadership; it makes one fit for God's service; for being used by God in his kingdom.