



Perspectives During Passover

John 13:1-17

Palm Sunday Message

John 13:1 (NIV)

- It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

John 13:2-5 (NIV)

- ² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

John 13:6-9 (NIV)

- ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?”
- ⁷ Jesus replied, “You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.”
- ⁸ “No,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet.”
- Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.”
- ⁹ “Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!”

John 13:10-11 (NIV)

- ¹⁰ Jesus answered, “Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.” ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

John 13:12-14 (NIV)

- ¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. ¹³ “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet.

John 13:15-17 (NIV)

- ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

When I don't understand God's ways...

- **1. Listen instead of speaking. (John 13:7-8)**
- *Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."*
- *⁸ "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."*
- *Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."*

4 Ways God Desires to Speak to You:

- **Through His Word**
- Hebrews 4:12 (NIV), *“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”*
- *God is not known or experienced fully until we connect with Him personally through His Word.*

Ways God Desires to Speak to You

- *Through Prayer*

- Psalm 119:147-148 (NASB):

- *I rise before dawn and cry for help;
I wait for Your words.*

*¹⁴⁸My eyes anticipate the night watches,
That I may meditate on Your word.*

Ways God Desires to Speak to You

- *Through the Holy Spirit*
- Romans 8:26 (NIV), *“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.”*

Ways God Desires to Speak to You

- *Through Other Believers*

- Ephesians 5:18-19 (NIV)

- *“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.”*

When I don't understand God's ways...

- **2. Learn instead of suggesting** (John 13:8a-11).
- *“No,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet.”*
- *Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.”*
- *⁹ “Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!”*

Learn instead of suggesting (cont'd)

- *¹⁰ Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.*
- *Suggestions indicate an inability to make an accurate decision.*

When I don't understand God's ways...

- **3. I must look at what Jesus does.**
- John 13:12-17 (NIV):
- *When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³ "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am.*

I must look at what Jesus does (cont'd)

- *¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.*

I must look at what Jesus does (cont'd)

- Jesus wants to impart to His disciples the lessons of love and humble service through this act of foot washing.
- The true nature of Christian living to Jesus was serving one another.
- If we want to be a disciple of Jesus, we must pattern our life after His.

Invitation

- As we prepare for communion, examine yourselves before the Lord.
- 1 Cor. 11:28, *“But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.”*
- *Are you serving others more than they are serving you?*

Communion