

More Like Jesus in Humility Jn. 13:1-17

Thesis: To encourage one another to be humble ourselves before God so that we can be servants of others.

Introduction:

While none of the accounts of the gospel refer to Jesus as being humble, His humility is clearly seen in His service of others.

Phil. 2:8 - And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

When we talk about being humility, we are talking about being a servant of others.

I. Recap of the story (13:1-11).

A. Jesus prepares to wash the feet of His disciples (13:1-4).

1. Jesus knew that He was about to die (13:1).
2. Judas was prepared to betray Jesus (13:2).
3. Jesus knew that He was going back to God (13:3).
4. Jesus takes a towel and a bowl and prepares to wash the disciples' feet (13:4).

B. Jesus takes the towel and bowl and He begins to wash the feet of His disciples (13:5-11).

1. It is Peter who initially refuses to let Jesus wash his feet (13:8).
2. After Jesus' response to Peter, he wants Jesus to wash his hands, head and feet (13:9).

II. Jesus uses this event to teach His disciples a valuable lesson (13:12-17).

A. Even though Jesus was their Lord and Teacher, He was also their servant (13:12-17).

1. Jesus washed the feet of His disciples to give them an example of service and humility.
 - a. Jesus, in His greatness, washed the feet of His disciples.
 - b. Jesus is "Teacher" and "Lord" and has all authority.
 - c. However, He was willing to humble Himself and wash the feet of His disciples.
2. Because Jesus did this for His disciples, they also should do it for others.

B. Jesus, by His example, taught His disciples to be a servant to others.

Practical Application

III. Today, we must have the same type of humility that Jesus had so that we can be a servant to others.

A. Far too many people feel that the church “owes” them something.

1. They think that people should do things for them simply because they are a member of the church.
2. Too many people forget that they are servants.
3. In all situations, we should have great humility and be servants of others and servants of God.
4. We need to remember the example of our young people serving the elder members at the Grandparent’s Dinner.

B. We must be a servant to all.

1. According to the text, Jesus washes the feet of all of His disciples, including Judas.
2. Today, we must be a servant to all.
3. This does not mean that we should stand around and be abused by others, but we should have the attitude of a servant.

C. Jesus often talked to His disciples about being a servant to others.

1. Mt. 20:20-28
2. The mother of James and John ask Jesus to give them the best places in His kingdom.
3. Jesus uses this occasion to teach His disciples about being a servant to others.
4. Mt. 20:25-28 - But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. {26} Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. {27} And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—{28} just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

D. Most importantly, to be a proper servant of others we must first be a servant to God.

1. Js. 4:6-10 - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” {7} Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. {8} Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. {9} Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. {10} Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.
2. II Pet. 5:5-7 - Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” {6} Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, {7} casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Conclusion:

Today, we must show the kind of humility that Jesus displayed so that we can be the kind of servant that He was?

Make Me A Servant

Make me a servant, Lord make me like You;
For You are a servant, make me one, too.
Make me a servant, do what you must do
To make me a servant; make me like you.

Today, are you a servant to others?

Most importantly, are you a servant to God?