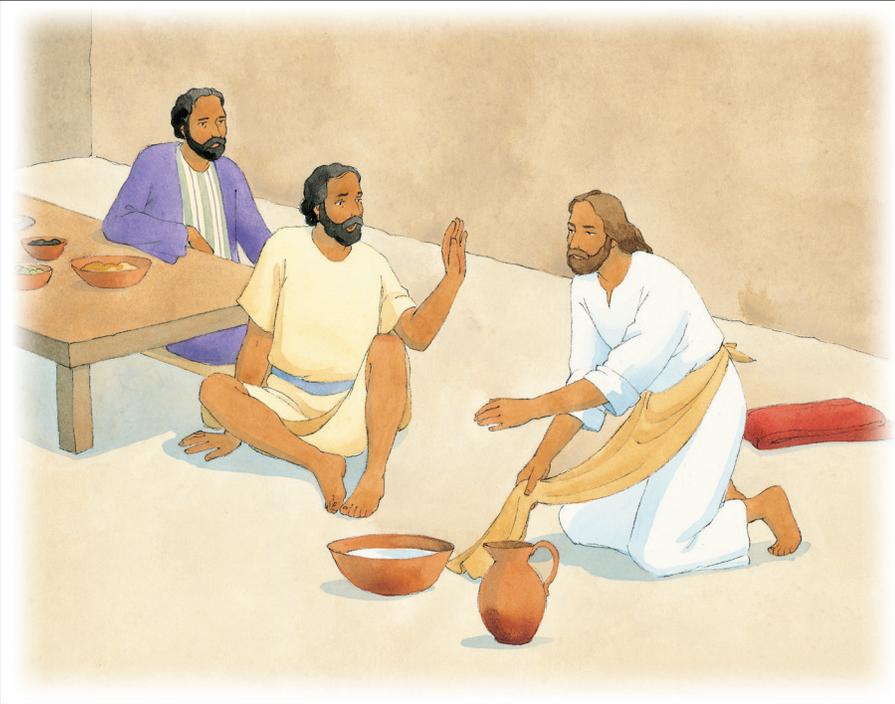


John 13:1-17

One Thursday night Jesus and his disciples ate a special dinner together. Jesus knew that the next day he would suffer and die for the sins of all people. He also knew he would come back to life and later leave his disciples and go back to heaven. So during the special dinner, Jesus taught his disciples about loving and serving one another.

First Jesus got up from the meal and took off his robe. He wrapped a towel around his waist. Then he poured water into a bowl and began to wash his disciples' feet. He used the towel to dry their feet.

When Jesus came to Peter, Peter did not think Jesus should wash his feet. He said, "Lord Jesus, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus said to Peter, "Right now you do not understand what I am doing. But later you will understand."

Peter said, "No! You shall never wash my feet!"

Jesus told Peter, "If I don't wash your feet, then you are not one of my people." Peter said, "Oh, Jesus, then wash my hands and my head too!"

But Jesus explained that a person who has had a bath and then walks somewhere really only needs his feet cleaned. The rest of

the body is not dirty. Then Jesus washed the feet of Peter and of each disciple.

Jesus put his robe back on and went back to his place at the dinner table. Then he said, "Do you understand what I have done? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord.' Yes, I am your Teacher and your Lord. I am the one you love and look up to. If I have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have shown you what to do. You are to serve others as I have served you. All people will know that you are my disciples if you love one another."



To show his love for his disciples, Jesus acted like a servant and washed their feet. We follow in our Savior's footsteps as we serve others out of love for them and for God.

1. Turn this page over and look at the picture. How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus washed their feet? Why do you think they felt that way?

Sing the words of the following prayer to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

Jesus, let me be like you,
Showing love in all I do,
Giving help to people here,
Serving them with joy and cheer.
Help me gladly show my love
To people and to God above. Amen.

2. As a family, choose one of the listed words to use for one or both of the following activities:

- Take each letter of the word and think of an example of serving others that starts with that letter (example for s: sending a care package to a college student or a soldier overseas).
- Count how many letters are in the word. Then name that many people and give an example of how you could love and serve each person.

Now make plans to carry out those actions to show love to others and to Jesus, your Savior!

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Pray Together

Dear Jesus, thank you for coming to earth to save us from our sins. Help us serve others each day out of love for them and for you. We love you, dear Savior! Amen.



Mark 10:45