

Phenomenal Footwork

Pastor Jeff Bucknam | John 13:1–17

NOTE: As a guide, use these questions to help with group and family discussion or for personal reflection. Not all questions are needed. Select the ones that will best serve your group as you grow in Christ together through His Word. *Soli Deo Gloria*.

Recap: For a brief recap, The Sermon's Title was: Phenomenal Footwork

Main Points were: Tell the Story *and* Three Applications:

- (1) Self-sacrificial service is expected; (2) Self-sacrificial service is primarily a family matter;
- (3) Self-sacrificial service is driven by knowing who you are and where you're going

Ice Breaker

If time travel were possible, would you want to go to the past or the future?

Understanding the Text in Context

Read John 13:1-17. What important context do verses 1-3 provide, including mindsets and motivations? Summarize the story by tracing the theme of cleaning.

In John 13:10, what does Jesus mean about being clean?

What cultural significance is there when a Rabbi washes the feet of his disciples?

Connecting to Jesus and His Gospel

Jesus takes the position of a servant even though He possesses all authority. How does this foreshadow what He will do for sinners on the cross?

Peter initially refuses to let Jesus wash his feet. How can his response picture our resistance to admitting that we need Jesus to cleanse us? What ways do we as a society think we can cleanse ourselves?

The Gospel produces a visible change in what comes out of a person. How should receiving Christ's sacrificial love change the way we love others?

Living Out the Truth

We ought to follow Jesus' example. How are you washing the feet of those in your family? In your church? In your community?

Jesus took off the robe, symbolizing the putting aside of dignity. What might be something preventing you from washing the feet of those around you?

Humility is challenging! Jesus' self-sacrificial service was driven by knowing who He was and where He was going (John 13:3). Who are you and where are you going?

Pray for one another: to know deeply who we are (our identity in Christ, cleansed by Him) and to know where we are going (as we walk closely with Him wherever we have been uniquely planted).

Parenting Moment and Family Focus

Read the story together.

Discuss the great gift of being cleansed from sin by Jesus. How does that act of love make us want to love Him all the more? And love others around us?

Plan a specific way to self-sacrificially serve someone else this week, to "wash the feet."

Further Study

Some articles that weave together aspects of love, cleansing, and self-sacrifice:

- [Loved to the End](#)
- [What's The Deal With Footwashing?](#)
- [The Cleansing We Need](#)
- [Our Lives in His: How Justification Leads to Holiness](#)
- [10 Things You Should Know about Sanctification](#), especially note #7

For a fun video from 20 years ago: [Cool Science Experiment - Original Mentos Diet Coke Geyser](#)

In your John Study Journals, look ahead to next week's sermon and text for John 13:21-30: "The Heart Can't Hide," "Knowing But Loving Anyway," and "The Calm Before the Cross"