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"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us."

[Augustine]

ENGAGE & CONNECT

Share about a time recently when someone displayed a simple act of love towards you.

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

*"Let me experience your faithful love in the morning, for I trust in you.
Reveal to me the way I should go because I appeal to you."*

[Psalm 143:8]

BIG IDEA

The single most defining expression of the body of Christ must be our love.

PASSAGE

- John 13:1-35

DISCUSSION

1. What does Jesus' act of washing the disciples' feet teach us about serving others?
2. How does Peter's reaction to Jesus washing his feet reflect our human attitude toward being served?
3. In the sermon we heard, *"No one is above serving. No one is below being served."* Which of these is hard for you? How is God inviting you to grow in this area?
4. Why did Jesus emphasize the importance of following his example in v. 14-15?
5. How is Jesus' command to "love one another as I have loved you" challenging you most in your daily life right now? Let's be honest and vulnerable with one another!
6. How does Jesus' response to Judas' betrayal exemplify his teachings on forgiveness and love for enemies?
7. In what ways does the act of foot washing serve as a model for community and relationship building within the church?
8. What impact does Jesus' act of washing the disciples' feet have on your understanding of sacrificial love in relationships?

9. How does this passage inspire you to live out our faith in practical, everyday ways?
10. In the sermon we heard, “If we are going to follow Christ, our actions must look more and more like his.” What specific way is God stirring in your heart to love more and more like Jesus?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE

If we want to become more like Jesus each and every day, we need to remember this: Love always esteems. That means that love ALWAYS regards others as honorable and valuable ... as made in the image of God! Based on the Spirit's prompting, what is a step of obedience that you can take today? **How will you strive to esteem the people around you on a daily basis?**

PRAYER FOCUS

Loving Like Jesus

- We come before you God with hearts full of gratitude and humility. We acknowledge that love is the essence of your divine nature and the cornerstone of our faith. May our actions, words, and thoughts reflect your boundless love, serving as a testament to our faith in You.
- King Jesus, fill us with compassion and grace, so that we may be vessels of your love to those around us. Help us to live out the greatest commandment: to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength AND to love our neighbors as ourselves.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Each of us has a story to tell how Jesus came into our lives, saved us from sin, and called us to Himself. When we share our stories with people around us, they can see our common humanity and that the saving work of Jesus Christ is available to all who believe and trust in Him!

WHO ARE YOU PRAYING FOR GOD TO GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE YOUR STORY WITH?

- [Sharing Your Story](https://rockbridge.cc/sharing-your-story) or rockbridge.cc/sharing-your-story