

# "We are never more like Jesus than when we are serving others. There is no higher calling than to be a servant." [Nancy Leigh DeMoss]

### **ENGAGE & CONNECT**

Share an interesting story involving feet (i.e. funny, strange, memorable, appropriate).

#### **BEGIN WITH PRAYER**

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

"Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God. If anyone speaks, let it be as one who speaks God's words; if anyone serves, let it be from the strength God provides, so that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ in everything. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen." [1 Peter 4:10-11]

#### **BIG IDEA**

As we embrace the significance of the cross, we will more clearly see ourselves as servants and navigate toward serving others.

PASSAGE & DISCUSSION

### John 13:1-20

- 1. What is most challenging for you about this passage?
- 2. Why is it important that Jesus washed Judas' feet along with the other disciples?
- 3. How does Jesus' question, "Do you know what I have done for you?", prepare the disciples for His teaching on service?
- 4. How does understanding Jesus' humility in this passage reshape our approach to leadership and influence?
- 5. Why is humility and service difficult for us to practice consistently?
- 6. How has Jesus served you in a specific way that shaped how you should serve others?
- 7. What is a barrier in your life that prevents you from serving others like Jesus did?
- 8. Jesus washed the feet of someone who would betray Him. How can you practice servanthearted love toward someone who has wronged you?

- 9. How does understanding our identity in Christ (as a servant and disciple) transform our daily priorities and interactions?
- 10. How can we actively remind each other to follow Jesus' example of humility and service in our daily lives?

## **STEP OF OBEDIENCE**

Jesus' act of foot washing is more than just an example of humility; it is a powerful illustration of the gospel! Jesus serves us as both Lord and servant, *modeling the kind of love and sacrifice we are called to embody*. Understanding the depth of His love should transform our identity and compel us to live beautiful lives of service to others! Here are a few additional questions to consider ...

- In what area of your life do you resist serving others? Why?
- How does Jesus' humility and love change the way you see yourself?
- Who can you serve this week in a tangible way? Will you commit to praying about that?

## PRAYER FOCUS

## Embracing the Cross & a Life of Service

- Take a moment to reflect on this: the more we embrace the significance of the cross, the more we recognize our true calling— as servants of Christ and of others. Jesus humbled Himself to the point of death on the cross, showing us that true greatness is found in serving. When we fix our eyes on His sacrifice, our hearts are shaped toward humility, love, and service.
- As we pray, let's ask God to help us see ourselves as His servants, ready and eager to love and serve those around us. Let's surrender pride and selfishness, embracing the humility of Christ as we follow Him.

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- John Ch. 13 Commentary & Washing the Disciples' Feet
  - $\circ$   $\:$  Use these for background and encouragement before your group gathers.
- Why Humble Service Makes Sense
  - This would be a good resource to use after your group gathers.
- View of all our Easter services and invite resources <u>HERE</u> (Good Friday, Family Experiences, and Easter).