

WHAT IF... We Served Like Jesus Served?

November 21, 2021 John 13:1-5

OPENING QUESTION

Have you ever heard the saying, "80% of life is just showing up"? Do you think that's true?

SHOW UP - John 13:1-2

- Driven by love - a different kind of love
- We get glimpses of this love in our lives - marriage, family, friends
- Jesus loved His disciples, and loved all people by sharing His life with them - He loved in action!
- Attach yourself to God's limitless love for you and attach it to others.
- Serve people because you love God, not because you feel sorry for them.
- We can only love when we share our lives with others. Love involves our sacrifice.

Where do you see true love in your life? What sacrifices do you make for your loved ones? Who has sacrificed for you? What sacrifices are you willing to make to love those you don't know well?

LOOK UP - John 13:3

- Jesus has full confidence in His Father and where His identity, and ours, is sealed.
- When you know who you are, you don't have to prove anything to anyone.
- Your security comes from your identity. You know where you are from, who you are and where you are going.
- The way of Jesus is to start and serve to the end no matter your high rank or role and to serve others.
- To look down is to fight for power and resources; to look up is to connect with the One who has all the power and resources.
- To be fully human means to fully bear the image of God by creating out of love, by redeeming broken things, by forgiving, by lifting others up.

Where do you get your identity? Do you struggle for power, authority, and resources? Are these things available to you in God's Kingdom economy?

RISE UP - John 13:4-5

- Jesus took a culturally significant task to illustrate that all serving is sacred and can demonstrate the love and power of God. He also taught Peter that sometimes humility looks like receiving service.
- *Removing His outer garments* - The high priest on the day of atonement would remove his outer garments and symbolically take on the sin of the Israelites.
- Jesus humbled Himself to take the form of a servant - *Philippians 2:6-11*
- We love and serve because we were *first* loved and served by our Heavenly Father.

When it comes to serving, what's your operating system? Do you serve out of obligation or social pressure or for someone's approval or just to feel good about yourself? Is it exhausting to serve when you are doing it for the wrong reasons? What are the right reasons?



CLOSING QUESTIONS

Hear

What are some things that stood out to you in this week's sermon and Scriptures?

Obey

Read *Philippians 2:6-11*. What did Jesus do to love and serve us? What might be today's equivalent of washing someone's feet? How much do you sacrifice to serve others, even those you don't know well? What truths can be applied to your life from the verses this week?

Pray

Pray that God will give you a servant's heart this week, and provide opportunities for you to love and serve others. How does Jesus provide an example for you to follow in *John 13*?