

*"Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside His garments; and took a towel, and girded Himself. After that He poureth water into a basin, and **began to wash** the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith He was girded." **John 13:3-5 KJV***



In the days of Christ, it was customary to wash the dusty feet of your guests when they came to visit, much like you would offer a glass of water. Most folks wore sandals, and their feet would get dirty from walking in the dirt and sand of the paths and streets. It was a polite gesture any good host wouldn't hesitate to perform. In this setting we see Jesus performing a servant's task for His disciples. He dons the robe of humility and serves His followers as a servant, only hours before He goes to Calvary to redeem mankind. *"So after He had washed their feet, and had taken His garments, and was set down again, He said unto them, 'Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.'"* He teaches us by example to serve one another's basic needs. We are to accommodate each other as a servant would accommodate his master's guests. However, all needs are not physical. We need to fellowship with one another around the table spread bountifully with *"the Bread of Life."* If we don't encourage one another in God's Word, it makes the devil's job easier. If we do not *"meditate therein day and night,"* we'll have no Word to help another in time of need. Ever tried to comfort the bereaved and have no idea what to say? We are comrades in arms *"against spiritual wickedness in high places."* We need to help each other get the dirt of this world off with the *"Water of the Word."* We need to apply the *"oil of gladness"* to the cuts and bruises left by the arduous journey. Our *"Sword of the Spirit"* needs to be sharp and ready to fight our adversary, *"because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."* We need to break the *"Living Bread"* together and slake our thirst with the *"Living Water"* from the Spring of Life!

We'd be like Jesus if we would,
Cleanse the toil and cares we could,
If we helped others as we should,
We'd do the Church a world of good. -CGP

It doesn't matter if we hold a higher position or not, only that we take care of needs as God brings them to our attention. Some are so spiritually shallow their idea of fellowship is to talk about the latest sporting event, or political debacle. There's no *"Balm of Gilead"* in sports talk! There's no *"peace that passeth all understanding"* in politics! There's no *"oil of gladness"* in gossip! We need to lift up Jesus to one another! Anything else is walking in darkness! We're not *"walking in the Light"* if comfortable having fellowship around the latest gossip or news. Let's discuss the "Good News," linger over the God's Word, and rejoice together over the promises it contains!

"Let all your things be done with charity. I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have ADDICTED themselves to the ministry of the saints,) That ye submit yourselves unto such, and to every one that helpeth with us, and laboureth."
1 Corinthians 16:14-16 KJV