

WE SERVE OTHERS

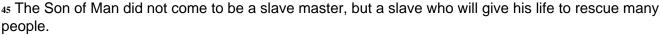
June 20, 2021

Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.

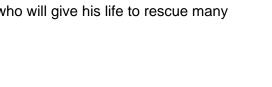
John 13:1-17

Memory Verse



Mark 10:45





written by Ron VandenBurg illustrated by Chad Thompson



Winter was on a retreat with a bunch of other students. At the end of the retreat, the leaders challenged everyone to wash someone else's feet as a way to serve each other. Imagine how grossed out you'd feel about kneeling down and washing the sweat and dirt off of your friend's hot and stinky feet after playing outside all day. That's exactly how Winter felt.

But that's also exactly what Jesus did in John 13. He and his friends had been traveling all day, and as they prepared for supper, Jesus took a bowl of water and a towel, knelt before each of them, and washed their tired and grimy feet. Jesus wanted to make sure his disciples understood that serving others was important. In Mark 10—when Jesus' disciples were arguing about the positions of authority they wanted in his kingdom—Jesus told them that he hadn't come to be served, but to serve others. By washing their feet, Jesus showed them what it means to serve others.

When it was her turn to wash her friend's feet, Winter realized she hadn't come to this retreat just for herself. She was there to serve others as well. As she dried her friend's feet with a soft towel—and her friend did the same for her—she was moved by the beauty of the event.

When we think about following Jesus, *serving others* is at the top of the list. It is a privilege to be able to walk alongside other people and use the gifts that God has given us to share the love of Christ with them as we serve.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us such a great example of what it means to serve each other. Help us use the gifts that you have given us to serve others everyday. Amen.

written by Bret Lamsma

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