

More Insights about Our Mission

John 13:17-38

Icebreaker

Describe the most memorable experience you have had eating a meal. *(For example, I ate Peking duck in Peking (Beijing, China) across the street from the Olympic Stadium.)*

Context

Last week, we looked at Jesus washing the feet of the disciples. John, reflecting back on the event, that Jesus even washed the feet of Judas. This is significant because Jesus does this incredible act of service and humility, even though Jesus knew Judas was about to betray Him. We pick up our lesson this week with Jesus speaking more about the betrayer and moves into Jesus' final lessons before His death.

Passage

¹⁸ I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' ¹⁹ I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

²¹ After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ²² The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. ²³ One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus' side, ²⁴ so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. ²⁵ So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷ Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." ²⁸ Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. ²⁹ Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰ So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once.

³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

³⁶ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." ³⁷ Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." ³⁸ Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.

Sermon Notes

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Review - Why did Jesus wash His disciples' feet?

1. It is a picture of His _____ INCARNATION _____.
Philippians 2:5-11
2. It is an example for His disciples ____ TO FOLLOW _____.
Verses 12-15 - For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

5 Mission Insights

1. We must not only know our mission but ____ DO IT _____.
v. 17 – If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.
2. Our mission has great ____ SIGNIFICANCE _____.
v. 20 – whoever receive the one I send, receives Me...
3. There will be times we are ____ TROUBLED IN SPIRIT _____.
v. 21 – Jesus was troubled in his spirit
2 Thessalonians 3:3
4. We are to live with a sense of ____ URGENCY _____.
2 Corinthians 6:1-3 – Now...now...
5. Our mission brings ____ GLORY TO GOD _____.
v. 31 - Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him.
God's glory is displayed in the perfect obedience of the Son's sacrifice!

A New Commandment I give to you...

1. Jesus ____ COMMANDS US TO LOVE ____ fellow Believers.
v. 31 – that you love one another just as I have loved you
Matthew 12:46-50
2. We love each other with ____ GOD'S LOVE _____.
Galatians 5:22-23
3. That means we express it in *1 Corinthians* ____ 13 WAYS ____.

Post Sermon Questions

If your group is meeting after hearing the sermon, here are some basic questions to discuss among the group.

1. What did you like about the sermon, or what was one of the more important things you heard in the sermon?
2. What was something in the sermon that caused you to have questions?
3. What did we learn about Jesus in this passage?
4. What do we learn about man (or human nature) in this passage?
5. Is there any sins we need to confess because of this passage?
6. Are there any actions we should take in light of this passage?

Discuss

Read verses 18 & 19. According to these verses, **was Jesus surprised that Judas would be the person who betrays Him? Why does it matter that the Bible says God ordained that Jesus would be betrayed and die on the Cross rather than thinking Jesus was a victim of oppression or circumstances that led to His death?** (See John 10:17-18, 1 John 3:16)

Have you ever been betrayed by someone? Why does it hurt so much? In looking back, did you see signs that it was coming and missed/ignored them?

If you knew someone was planning to betray you, would you treat that person differently?

What does it tell us about Jesus that He knew Judas was going to betray Him, but He washed Judas' feet, He gave Judas the seat of honor at the meal, and He served food to Judas?

Read John 3:19-20. Why did Judas not respond to Jesus' acts of love and Jesus' teaching?

Read John 10:11, 15, 17 & John 15:13. **What is one of the significant ways Jesus demonstrated His love for people? How hard is it to love others like Jesus loves people? Why?**

What do you think the people outside of churches think is the distinguishing mark of being a Christian? Would churches look and act differently if Christians genuinely loved one another?

Do you think Peter was sincere when he said he would lay down his life for Jesus? What did Jesus know about Peter that Peter had not realized yet about himself?

(You can't win spiritual battles without spiritual power. Peter thought he was strong enough in his own power.) **Are there things in your life that you claim to be able to overcome,**

but you find failure when you do them in your own power? What are some steps you can take this week to allow God to help you with your struggles?

Next Steps

What can you do to love other Christians? Seek opportunities to love others this week.

Pray and ask God if you have betrayed Jesus. We betray Him when we deny Him access to every part of our lives. Ask God to help you surrender every area of your life to Him.

Find a friend or mentor who can help you grow in an area of weakness or struggle.