

Proud Hearts and Dirty Feet

I. Slide1 **Announce:**

- A. Slide2-6 Larry: Bridges. Children. Foundations. Mens Video. Men Study.
- B. Slide7 Baptism: Today at the Terry's.
- C. Slide8 Harvest Crusade: Aug.23-25.
- D. Slide9-11 Movie Premiere, False Hopes: Proud of David. We thank you all will enjoy this *light-hearted romantic comedy w/a message*. Movie starts at **6pm**. Victor Marx is having an *Update Mtg* in rm.133 at 4pm. *Let's watch this brief video from David.*

II. Slide12 **Intro:** *Proud Hearts and Dirty Feet*

- A. So far, Chapters 1-12 Jesus is the *Light*. Now, Chapters 13-21 Jesus is *Love*.
- B. At least 2 reasons why Jesus chooses this activity on His last night w/His disciples: *Proud Hearts and Dirty feet*. [read all 13:1-20]

III. Slide13 **LOVE TO THE END (1-5)**

- A. Jesus knew that His hour had come - The 11th hour.
 1. This hour **didn't** creep up on Him & take Him unaware. Yet, He also **wasn't** staring at His watch, watching His life tick away.
 2. He knew He only had 15 hours to live. Yet, He is not anxious; nor nervously looking for a back door. He knows death is His destiny.
 - a) He knows that not only is His death the Father's will **but even** His betrayal is too.
- B. Loved them to the end - to the uttermost, eternally.
 1. Or, He loved them to the *end of His life* & to the *end of love*.
- C. (2) Supper - Here we have a *5 chapter supper* (ch.13:1-18:1)
 1. His **last** meal, **last** night, & **last** opportunity to teach His disciples.
 2. Jesus' last words speak of all the **resources** that will be at the disciples disposal, after His departure.
 3. Location? a room in Jerusalem. Occasion? the night before Passover.

a) **Passover** - The day to remember, back when an innocent, blemish-free lamb's blood was spilt, to spare a household from death's visit to their home.

D. (2,3) **Judas** self-serving. **Jesus** self-giving. **Judas** - a pretend friend.

E. **Simon son** (Judas's dad). *What a sad legacy.*

F. (3-5) He has all things in His hands or under His power, & does what with it? Washes feet

1. A **disciple** would do anything his **rabbi** asked him. **Except**, he would never be expected to wash feet. The lowest ranking slave washed feet.

2. What did the angels in heaven think now? *Ok, that's too far Lord.*

G. (4) And now the **demonstration** of the verse, *I did not come to be served, but to serve.*

H. **He laid aside his outer garments** - Here, Jesus strips Himself of what is likely His only possession on earth & only identification as a **rabbi** (rabbis were often recognized by *their robes*)¹

1. Spurgeon, *Was he not on earth always stripping off first one robe of honor and then another, till, naked, he was fastened to the cross, and there did he not empty out his inmost self pouring out his life-blood, giving up for all of us, till they laid him penniless in a borrowed grave?*

2. How **low** was our dear Redeemer brought, how then can we be **proud**?

a) **Our pride** is as silly as the **donkey** that had **Jesus** on his back, thinking that they put garments & palm fronds on the ground *for him*.

3. **Jesus** got off his **seat** to serve **Judas**, **but** he got off his **throne** to serve **you**.

4. He got on the **floor** to serve **Judas**, **but** he got on the **cross** to serve **you**.

5. He poured out **water** for Judas, **but** he poured out his **blood** for you.

a) Always willing to go down...*even further*. Are you?

I. **Slide14a** Here he deals with **4 principles** regarding **humility**:

1. **Humility is Unannounced** - Jesus didn't say, *Ok, men, I'm now going to demonstrate humility!*

¹ Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). Faithlife Study Bible (Jn 13:4). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

a) **Let me help you with this...** don't take a **selfie** while you're serving someone.
#Serving #Humble #Whoisthegreatest?

b) Greatness does not consist of *exhalation*, **but** self-sacrifice.

c) As nature teaches us, *the branch most full of fruit...bends the lowest.*

(1)The question is: **How low can you grow?**

2. **Slide14b Humility is willing to receive, w/o Embarrassment** - Tucking his feet under himself, Peter pulls away.

a) Jesus stoops, Peter resists...a resistance that leads to a rebuke.

3. **Slide14c Humility is not a sign of Weakness** - Here Jesus **boldly rebukes** in the midst of this **humble** task.

4. **Slide14d Humility does not play Favorites** - Humility is neither **selective** nor **exclusive**.

a) Jesus washes 24 feet...**even Judas' pair.**

b) If Jesus were *only human*, He probably would have been tempted to use **boiling water** to wash **Peter's** feet, & **ice cold water** to wash **Judas'**.

c) **But** He didn't come **to scold** or **to shun**. He came to **serve gently & humbly**.

J. Jesus was able to perform this act of **utter humility** because of His keen understanding of **who He was, where He came from, & where He was going.** (Identity/counseling class)

1. This is key to humility in all persons - a healthy & balanced understanding of **who they are.**

2. **Who's the greatest?** (question at this meal, rt after **1 of u will betray me**).

a) **Peter**, *I walked on water* (Yah, then you fell in). **John**, *I am the disciple He loved* (remember when he said that, remember?). **Bartholomew** (Bartholo-who?)

IV. Slide15a **COMPLETELY CLEAN (6-11)**

A. (9) **Peter's pendulum swing.** (I can relate)

1. This causes Jesus to put His finger on the pulse of **a critical theological matter.**

B. (10) **Explain public baths** - Baptism pools have been unearthed where the Jerusalem temple would have stood in the 1st century ad. [**Israel team - we will see them in March**]

1. **Eg:** Early Haiti showers. **Once showered, walk to room in flip flops, feet get dirty**

2. How clean? Completely clean. When would they be clean? They **are** clean.
- No need for *double dippin* (need to be saved again? No, 1 bath is enough. No frequent flyers)
 - We notice this doesn't deny **but** explains, *a Christian will still sin*, even after being saved (**bathed**). His feet will still get dirty (**his/her walk**).
- C. Slide15b Bathed (λούω) = *washing the whole body*. Washed (ρίπτω) = *to rinse a body part*
- God **bathes** us at conversion, cleansing our scarlet sins white as snow. **But**, walking through life's dirty streets, we pick up some of the world's *grunge/grime*.
 - What we need in that case is **not another bath...just cleansing**.
 - 1 Jn.1:9 *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* [Context: a believer, already bathed]
- D. What did **Jesus** feel as He was washing Judas' feet? Did He pinch him? **Or** do ½ a job? **Or**, did He feel *sorrow* knowing his feet would never ever come clean.
- E. What did **Judas** feel? It's just moments before Satan would possess Him (27) & the last thing for Judas to remember is *The One he was about to betray...washed his feet*.
- Application:** So I'd like **you** to picture reclining at this table this morning. Jesus is getting to **your** feet next. He stooping to wash **your needs**. **Oh, and not your clean & polite needs, but your dirty needs; your dirty feet of pride, your dirty feet of insensitivity, your dirty feet of selfishness.**
 - He wants to **wash our dirty feet** & teach us how to **live as cleansed people**.
- F. Slide16 Most Christians know Jesus **forgives**, **But** don't know He **cleanses** too. Thus God's people often live with *condemnation, shame & guilt*.
- Some of you feel **dirty**. Some of you feel **gross**. Some of you feel **like damaged goods**. Some of you feel **ashamed...guilty...condemned** for 1 of 2 reasons: **either** what you **have done** is disgusting (it's dirty/filthy). **Or**, whatever has been done **to you** is disgusting (it's dirty/filthy).
 - Look at the words again from Jesus...**completely clean. And you are clean.**
- G. Jesus we give U **clean relationships**, **clean friendships**, **clean marriages**, **clean internet searches**, **clean business dealings**, **clean parenting**, a **clean joyful, hope-filled life**.

V. Slide17a **BLESSED ARE YOU IF YOU DO (12-20)**

- A. (12) Jesus finishes & reclines at the table again. *It's quiet.* To drive this message into their hearts He asks a penetrating question. *Do you know what I have done to you?* (i.e. foot washing)
- B. Slide17b 2 lessons emerge: [1] Humility includes **servicing one another** *not just* the Lord. [2] Happiness results from **demonstrating** humility, *not just* learning about it.
- C. **Humility includes servicing one another, not just the Lord** (14-16)
1. (14) **Wash one another's feet?** - right now we can't even wash each others feet, we were arguing to see, *who was the greatest?*
 - a) We were ready to fight for a **throne** but not for a **towel**.
 - b) So at least 2 reasons why Jesus chooses this activity on His last night w/His disciples: **Proud Hearts & Dirty feet.**
 2. The command to *do for one another* what *Christ had done for them* was **not** confined to *washing feet*.
 - a) Some churches have a *Foot Washing Service*. *We don't do that in our Western culture.* [Today, guests walk in our home & we ask *would you like a drink? Can I get you anything?* We normally don't asked *do you want to pedicure?*]
 - b) If we're not simply **humbling ourselves & servicing someone**, **then** we've *missed the whole point*. *Is there anything above us we won't do?*
 - c) **Note:** *Do wash someone's feet.* It's very special both to give & receive. (Ty/Cal)
- D. Slide17c **Happiness results from demonstrating humility, not just learning about it** (17)
1. (17) **Blessed are you if you do them** - Our faith is to be intensely practical.
 - a) Not just a **great theology**, but a **practical outliving of it**.
 - b) How you treat people. How you spend money. How you spend your time. That's predicated on **how you view God**.
 - c) **Love is best proved by service**.
 2. **Blessed are you if you do them** - Simple obedience. As a soldier obeys his commanding officer, even when the order conflicts with his *comfort, convenience, or safety*.
 - a) Christianity is more than **creed** & includes **deeds**.

E. (18-20) Some say *if only I could see Jesus. If only I can witness one of his miracles. Then I'll follow him. Nope.*

1. Judas had a privileged seat. He was a 3 year, box seats, season ticket holder and sat next to Jesus, and he still didn't love Him. For 3 years he witnessed Jesus Love, miracles, and the best preaching ever. And still decided not to follow him.

a) Slide17d [Here's a word for someone today] It's not your fault the way they turned out.

(1) Have you loved someone who just continues to sprint down the path of utter destruction? (drinking, drugs, life out of control, life-health destructive)

(2) It's normal to ask, *what else could I have said, or done?* But Jesus had a perfect relationship with Judas, perfect love, perfect counsel. I want to unburden you today (if you have conviction of contributing to it, fine deal w/that) but you might be bearing a burden that isn't yours to bear.

F. Slide18 Servanthood is Love at Work, Love in Action.

1. How can you model Humility to those around you?

a) What's the one job no one likes to do in your office? Or job site? Or in your home?

b) Do it & reap the Blessings of servanthood. Live like Jesus!

G. Have you humbled yourself to receive His humble care? Or have you tucked your feet underneath you, as Peter did, too proud to let Jesus deal with your needs His way?

H. For some of us, letting Jesus do that is not a struggle, we're comfortable with our relationship staying between Him & ourselves. The hard part comes when we're challenged to serve one another. But that's what Jesus tells us His way is all about.

1. How is your attitude toward humbly serving others?

I. Jesus has passed us His towel. Who will He bring in your life this week to serve?