

**THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY**  
**CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K&K)**

**Lesson #79**

**DATE:**

**SUBJECT:** Washing the Disciples' Feet

**SCRIPTURE:** John 13:1-17

**AIM:** To show the children that Jesus wants us to show love to each other.

**MEMORY VERSES:**

**John 15:12** "This is My commandment, that you love one another even as I have loved you."

**REVIEW:** Last week we heard a story about the Lord Jesus and His disciples. They all had a special dinner together. Why was this a special dinner? What did Jesus tell them?

**CONTENT:** When the disciples and Jesus came to the house where they would be eating, they went and took off their sandals. Near the door they saw a large pitcher of clean water, a bowl and a towel, but there was no servant waiting to wash the men's feet. In Bible time, people needed their feet washed because they walked on hot, dusty roads and wore open sandals.

Because there was no servant waiting to do the job, one of the disciples should have offered to do it, but no one offered.

The disciples quietly took their places at the table. Peter and John sat on either side of Jesus. The other disciples also wanted to be close to Jesus and not miss a word He said.

After they had eaten, an amazing thing happened! Jesus got up, took off His long outer robe, and tied the towel around Him. He poured water into the bowl, and picked it up.

The disciples began to wonder, what is Jesus going to do? Then Jesus carried the bowl to one of the disciples, washed his feet, and wiped them with a towel. Then He went to the next disciple, and did the same thing. Then He went to the next disciple, and did the same.

Imagine how quiet the disciples were as they watched Jesus work. Why hadn't they thought of doing this work for Jesus and the others? Even though washing the feet of other people was the work that servants did, they could have done it for their friends. And they certainly should have wanted to wash Jesus' feet! But they hadn't!

But now, Jesus was acting like a servant for them. He was their Master, their Teacher, and the Son of God and yet He was serving them like a servant.

Then Jesus knelt in front of Peter to wash his feet. Peter asked, "Lord, why should you wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not understand what I am doing now, but you will understand it later."

Peter shook his head as he said, "No, you shall never wash my feet!" Peter did not think that Jesus should be his servant. Jesus looked at Peter and said, "If you don't let me wash your feet, you can't be my partner." Quickly Peter said, "Lord, wash my hands, and my head as well!"

Peter really did want to be Jesus' partner. Jesus answered, "When you believed in me, you were washed clean, but now I only need to wash your feet."

After Jesus had washed the feet of all the disciples, He took off the towel, put on His outer robe, and sat down again. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" Jesus asked, "You called Me Teacher, and I am your teacher. You call Me Lord, and I am your Lord. Even though I am your Teacher and your Lord, I have served you and washed your feet. Because I have done this for you, you should do the same for each other."

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another? (John 13:34-35).

### **APPLICATION:**

Jesus was training His disciples how to show love to others. Just as Jesus showed love to people, the disciples too needed to learn how to show love. It is the same with us today. Jesus loves us very much. We need to love one another as well as Jesus. How can we show love to one another?

### **SONGS:**

#### **13 SCRIPTURES FOR SINGING (1)** **(John 13:34-35) (Hymn 1343)**

A new commandment  
I give unto you  
That you love one another  
As I have loved you,  
That you love one another  
As I have loved you,

By this shall all men,  
Know you are My disciples  
If you have love one to another.

By this shall all men,  
Know you are My disciples  
If you have love one to another.

Adapted from Scripture Press (Primary-March 17, 1991) Unit 1, Lesson 3