

“I Am the Resurrection and the Life”

The Gospel of John

John 13:1–30

Read John 13:1–17.

1. How would you describe Jesus’ love for his disciples? (v. 1c; Jn. 15:9)

2. What is significant about this “time” (v. 1) in Jesus’ life? (vv. 1a, 2; Jn. 12:27b)

3. Jesus is about to be betrayed, humiliated, tortured, and crucified.
 - a. What confidence does he have in the face of such evil? (v. 3)

 - b. What will this confidence enable him to do on this evening and in the next few days? (vv. 1c, 4–5; Phil. 2:5–8)

4. Imagine an honored guest doing the most menial task in your home such as cleaning the toilets! That gives you a little taste of what it would have been like for Jesus to stoop down and wash his disciples’ feet at this final meal together.
 - a. Why does Peter object so vigorously?

 - b. What overcomes Peter’s objection to having his feet washed by Jesus (and even motivates him to request more from him)? (vv. 8–9)

 - c. How does this act point forward to Jesus’ crucifixion? (Titus 2:14; 3:3–5)

5. Jesus is not teaching his disciples about getting dirty feet clean.
 - a. What is he teaching them? (vv. 14–15)

 - b. How is Jesus’ example supposed to significantly change the way his followers treat one another? (Jn. 15:12; Eph. 4:1–2, 32)

 - c. How can we possibly do what Jesus calls us to do? (v. 1c; 1 Jn. 3:16; 4:10–11, 19)

Read John 13:18–30.


6. Among the twelve disciples at the meal with Jesus is Judas Iscariot. Jot down what we know about him from these verses.


v. 5

vv. 2, 18, 21

vv. 10–11

vv. 26–30

7. Given what Jesus knows about Judas, what surprises you about the way Jesus treats him?
8. Jesus seeks to prepare his disciples for the onslaught of evil they are about to witness.
- How does he do this? (vv. 18–19, 21)
 - Why do you think he does this? (Consider Jn. 13:1, 27)
9. Clearly Satan is at work seeking to carry out his evil plans. How do we know that Jesus was not a victim of these plans? (vv. 1, 3, 18–19, 27; Acts 2:23)
10. Most scholars believe that John (the writer of this gospel) is “the disciple whom Jesus loved” (v. 23; * Jn. 21:20–25).
- Why do you think John refers to himself this way?
 - Do you refer to yourself in this way too? Why or why not? (1 Jn. 3:1)

*The  symbol indicates verses for further study.