

## John 13:5

*After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.*

Have you ever been to a foot washing or taken part in one? I know I did many years ago, with the men in our men's bible study. When this happened, we were told ahead of time that it was going to happen.

So what did I do? Well, I walked around barefoot all day in the mud and the cow pastures trying to get my feet as dirty as I could. .... Well, not really, what I actually did, was made sure my feet were clean before I went to the bible study that evening, because I didn't want people to think that I had stinky, dirty feet. Also, when someone is washing your feet, or even when you are washing the feet of others, you are embarrassed, because it's not something we do here in the USA.

But not in Israel, or even other countries, be it two thousand years ago, or even today, because it is still a common practice in some cultures. So when you think of that, we must realize that when Jesus washed the feet of the disciples, they were not embarrassed, and neither was Jesus, like we would be, because it was a normal thing to have your feet washed by a "servant", and Jesus was teaching them to be that "servant".

But as you read Peter's response

† **John 13:6** *Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?"*

He, and probably all the disciples thought that Jesus was too good to do such a task, that's why Peter was questing Jesus. But once again, as we read Jesus' response, we find out that Jesus was teaching them by example how to be a servant to others.

† **John 13:12-15** *So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you."*

Even when we read this account, another reason the disciple were probably not shocked at what Jesus was doing, was because even though they called Him Teacher and Lord, they also saw Him serving others also. So it wasn't a last thing that Jesus was teaching them, but was a final example to them, reminding them to be servants, as they saw Him being one for three years.

† ***“You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.”***

Some of my best friends in church are those who serve and do those things that others do not see, and they are a good example to me on how to be a servant. Yet all people see are the results of those things they are doing.

How many pray in their prayer closet during the week and are not seen, or go out and minister to those outside of the church building, or tithe, or clean up at the church when no one is there to see them doing it? Yet, others think that they are not doing anything, because they don't boast in those things they are doing for God's kingdom.

Jesus never boasted that He washed the disciple's feet, and neither should we boast in anything that we do, be it for the Lord or for anyone. Because Jesus taught us by example, both by His words and the by things that He did for others. So, let's follow His example, and not just talk the talk, but walk the talk like Jesus did.

† ***John 13:15 For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.***

† ***Matthew 6:3-4 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.***