

NORTHERN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

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The Blessed Life – Part 4 – The Heart of Serving

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³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist.

⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." ⁹"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!" ¹⁰Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. ¹²When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am." ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them. John 13:3-16

- Jesus separated the difference between **knowing** and **doing**.
- Serving leads to the path of blessing.

TWO CRITICAL LESSONS JESUS WAS TEACHING

1. **AWARENESS**
2. **TIMING**

THE PATH TO BLESSING

1. Learn to serve in **secret**
2. Learn to love and serve **God's people**
3. Learn to serve in the **insignificant**, in the **small**, in the areas no one else wants to
4. Learn that the **cause of Christ** goes forward through the **heart of serving**

HOW IS YOUR HEART TO SERVE?

...so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. John 13:4

TRAITS OF A SERVANT'S HEART

1. HAS A WILLINGNESS TO GET **INVOLVED**.
2. SEES PEOPLE BEYOND WHERE THEY ARE THROUGH THE **GRACE AND MERCY OF CHRIST**.
3. GOES **LOW** TO BRING **UP**.
4. HAS A WILLINGNESS TO GET **MESSY** TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

... just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matthew 20:28

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name... Philipians 2:9

Go further with the Talk It Over study guide.

Pick one up from the information center or at www.nhcc-az.com