

# Seek First

The Kingdom of God

**HUMBLE SERVICE**

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**The Chapel**

**November 17, 2024**

## PERSONAL STUDY

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**Directions:** Use this for your personal devotion time and/or to prepare for your Small Group discussion.

### Scripture Passage: John 13:1-17

1 It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

2 The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. 3 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; 4 so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

7 Jesus 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!"

10 Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." 11 For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not everyone was clean.

12 When 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. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

## SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS

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**Directions:** Read the passage and record your observations.

1. What is the "big idea" of the passage? \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. What main life application question does the passage address/answer? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What is one way you can apply it this week? \_\_\_\_\_

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### GROUP STUDY \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Use **BOTH** the personal and group questions for your group's discussion.

**OPENER** – What does seeking first the Kingdom of God mean to you in practical terms in your life? How can you evaluate your life to see if you are truly seeking God's Kingdom first?

#### Q1 – The Example of Christ

- a. What do you know about feet washing from the Bible, the sermon message, or other resources? Why was Jesus washing his disciples' feet so significant?
- b. How did the disciples react when Jesus started washing their feet? How do you think you would have reacted if you were a disciple in this situation?
- c. Why do you think Peter initially resisted Jesus washing his feet? Do you ever feel a similar way when receiving God's grace- is it difficult for you?

#### Q2 – The Imitation of Christ

- a. Does understanding your identity in Christ help you to better serve others?
- b. Have you ever been called to serve someone who doesn't deserve it? How might serving those who are "undeserving" challenge you to grow in your faith?
- c. What are some practical ways that we can "wash one another's feet" in our daily lives?