



[study guide]

FRUIT OF NEW LIFE: Servant **1.20.13: John 13:1-17**

[set up]

How has someone served you or blessed you in such a way that it made an impression or impact in your life?

What is something that you have done to serve or bless someone else that gave you great joy?

[digging deeper]

This last weekend we looked at being a servant, something we believe here at CVC is one of the “Fruits” of living new in Christ. Read the teaching passage from our worship services: John 13:1-17

What is the significance of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples and why would that have been awkward and confusing to the disciples? (what must they have been thinking & feeling?)

Why did Peter react the way he did when Jesus came to wash his feet and what is the meaning of their exchange? (Vs. 6-10) How does 1 Peter 5:5,6 reveal that Peter did indeed get the message loud and clear?

Why did Jesus wash the feet of Judas when He knew that He would betray Him and what can we learn about that moment for our own lives? (Vs.11)

Jesus was not instituting a policy for His followers to literally wash each other’s feet in verses 14 and 15, but what is the primary meaning of what He was teaching?

How do the following verses reinforce or add depth to our calling to be a servant?

Prov. 3:27-28	Luke 4:39	Luke 22:26-27	John 3:30	Titus 3:14
Gal 5:13	Gal. 6:9-10	Heb. 6:10	I Peter 4:10-11	

What are the biggest obstacles for us to live out this example that Jesus modeled for us?

What experiences, philosophies or examples have you encountered that feed the view that greatness is achieved by being serving rather than serving others?

How hard is it for you to serve others? What kinds of serving opportunities come easy for you and excite you? What kinds of serving opportunities are more difficult for you and take more effort and humility on your part to act upon?



[study guide]

[living it out]

Brainstorm about ways to use the “water basin and towel” today? How can you find yourself practically serving: Family members? Friends? Co-workers? If in school, fellow students? Neighbors? Complete strangers? People who don’t know Christ? Other followers of Christ?

What is something God has laid on your heart during this time that would take this study time and convert it into action?

Take the challenge to memorize Mark 10:43-45 to help internalize God’s instruction to be a servant. Find an accountability partner who will also memorize the verse and you can practice on each other.

You can also go online and take the “Servant” part of the “Fruit of New Life Assessment” to get a read on how you are growing in your servanthood:

<http://cvconline.org/images/uploads/DiscipleshipAssessment.pdf>

Close in prayer asking God to help you become a better servant. You can repeat our prayer from this last weekend, “Decrease my capacity selfishness & Increase my capacity to serve”



[study guide]

[resources]

A few recommended books, or chapters from books, to encourage you in the desire to serve (mostly taken from our Fruit of New Life companion resource Guide)

“Radical” by David Platt

Chapter 1: Someone Worth Losing Everything For

Chapter 3: Beginning at the end of ourselves

“Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life” by Donald Whitney

Chapter 7: Serving

“The Life You’ve Always Wanted” by John Ortberg

Chapter 6: Appropriate Smallness

“The Purpose Driven Life” by Rick Warren

Day 29: Accepting Your Assignment

Day 30: Shaped for Serving God

Day 31: Understanding Your Shape

Day 32: Using What God Gave You

Day 33: How Real Servants Act

Day 34: Thinking Like a Servant

“Improving Your Serve” by Charles Swindoll;

Chapter 1: Who, Me a Servant?

Chapter 2: A Case for My Unselfishness

Chapter 3: The Servant as a Giver

“Evangelism Is” by David Wheeler and David Earley

Ch. 18 – Evangelism is Washing feet

http://books.google.com/books?id=AVFfU8hh9ZAC&pg=PA147&source=gbs_toc_r&cad=4#v=onepage&q&f=false

“Celebration of Discipline” by Richard Foster

Chapter 9 Discipline of Service