

“More Like The Master!”
John 13:12-17

Introduction:

1. Let's Head Back In Our Bibles:
 - To John 13 - Where:
 - We Have Seen Jesus Serve:
 - His Disciples:
 - By Washing Their Feet!
 - Well - After Being Interrupted:
 - By Peter - When We Come To:
 - 13:12 - We Find that:
 - Jesus Will Finish What:
 - He Started!
2. And - Jesus' Service Is All The More Remarkable:
 - When You Consider The Previous Verse!
 - 13:11 - Because - Jesus Even Washed:
 - The Feet Of The One:
 - He *knew* Would Betray Him!
 - The One:
 - He *knew* Was Not & Would Not Be Clean!
3. And So - John Notes That:
 - After Jesus Wraps Things Up:
 - He Has Something More:
 - To Say To His Disciples:
 - About What He Just Did:
 - For Them!
 - 13:12-17 - “So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? / Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. / If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. / For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. / Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. / If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them!”
 - The Lesson Of These Verses:
 - Is Clear!
 - The Service Jesus Performed:
 - For His Disciples!
 - Was The Service:
 - His Disciples Needed To Perform:
 - For Each Other!
4. And - This Lesson Was Not Only Intended:
 - For His Disciples Back Then!
 - It Was Intended For All Of Jesus' Disciples:
 - Even Today!
 - The Service Jesus Did For You:
 - Is The Service You Are To Do For Others!
 - But - Jesus Does Not Merely Want You:
 - Serve In The Same Way:
 - As He Did - By:
 - Washing Feet!
 - Jesus Wants You To:
 - Serve According To The Same Spirit:
 - That He Did:
 - In As Many Ways That Will Come Your Way!
5. And So - Those Who Have Been:
 - Saved & Cleansed By The Lord:
 - Need To Serve According To:

1. The Examination Of The Lord:

- That We First Find In:
 - 13:12 - Where Jesus Asks His Disciples:
 - A Penetrating Question:
 - “Know Ye What I Have Done To You?”
 - And - With This Question:
 - Jesus Wanted Them & Us:
 - To Think About:
 - What His Service Meant!
 - Not Just About:
 - The Performance Of His Service:
 - But The Point Of His Service!
 - And - When You Stop:
 - To Contemplate Jesus’ Act Of Humble Service:
 - There Are Many Things:
 - That It Can Teach Us:
 - About Jesus & His Gospel!
- When Jesus Washed The Feet Of His Disciples:
 - It Was Also A Picture:
 - Of The Sacrifice:
 - Of His Life For His People!
 - A Sacrifice That:
 - Extended All Through Jesus’ Life:
 - And Especially In Jesus’ Death!
 - A Sacrifice That:
 - Jesus Was Willing To Make:
 - To Save & To Cleanse Those:
 - Who Would Have Faith In & Follow Him!
 - So - When You Think About What Jesus Did:
 - Think About The Sacrifice:
 - He Made For You! But Also:
- When Jesus Washed The Feet Of His Disciples:
 - It Was Also A Picture:
 - Of The Sufficiency:
 - Of His Cleansing For His People!
 - Back In 13:10:
 - Jesus Told Peter:
 - “He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit!”
 - When Jesus Washes Your Heart & Soul:
 - You Become Clean:
 - Where It Counts!
 - And This Cleansing:
 - Can Only Come:
 - Through The Cleansing Power Of:
 - Jesus’ Blood & Jesus’ Words!
 - So - When You Think About What Jesus Did:
 - Think About The Sufficiency:
 - Of All His Work - For You!
 - But Also:
- When Jesus Washed The Feet Of His Disciples:
 - It Was Also A Picture:
 - Of The Service:
 - Jesus Wants His People:
 - Who Have Been Cleansed & Washed By Him:
 - To Continue!
- And This Is What We Find:
 - In The Rest Of These Verses!
 - But - All Service For The Lord:
 - Should Be Done In Contemplation Of:

- The Service Of The Lord!
- “Know Ye What I Have Done To You?”
 - Serve According To:
 - The Examination Of The Lord!
 - But Then - Serve Also According To:

2. ***The Excellence Of The Lord!***

- The Excellence Of The Lord:
 - That We Find Next In 13:13 - Where Jesus Adds:
 - “Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am!”
 - Here - Jesus Is Talking About:
 - The Way His Disciples:
 - Would Often Address Him:
 - With These Titles Of Honor And Respect!
- They Would Call Him:
 - “Master” - Or - “Teacher!”
 - Which Is How Jewish Students:
 - Learned To Call Their Teachers!
 - In Hebrew - Rabbi!
 - And - This Was A Title Of Respect & Esteem:
 - That Was Used To Address Jesus:
 - From The Very Beginning:
 - Of His Ministry!
- But - They Would Also Call Him:
 - “Lord” - Even As Peter Had Done:
 - Just A Few Verses Before!
 - And - This Too Was A Title Of Respect & Esteem:
 - That Was Used To Express:
 - A Master - Servant Relationship!
- And - Jesus Commended:
 - His Disciples Use Of These Titles:
 - For Him!
 - “Ye Say Well!”
 - But Then - Jesus Says:
 - “For So I Am!”
 - So - His Disciples Were Not Wrong:
 - In Who Jesus Was!
 - However - Did They Really:
 - Mean What They Said:
 - When They Called Jesus:
 - By These Titles!
- After All - By Saying:
 - “For So I Am” - Jesus Claimed To Be:
 - Not Only *A* Teacher:
 - But - *The* Teacher!
 - *The* Most Eminent & Exclusive Teacher:
 - Of All!
 - And - If They & If You:
 - Really Consider Jesus:
 - To Be *Your* Teacher:
 - Then You Need To Listen To Him & Learn From Him!
 - Even As Jesus Urges Us:
 - In Matthew 11:29 - “Learn Of Me!”
- But Also - By Saying:
 - “For So I Am” - Jesus Claimed To Be:
 - Not Only *A* Lord:
 - But - *The* Lord!
 - *The* Most Mighty & Majestic Lord:

- Of All!
- And If You:
 - Really Call To Jesus:
 - As *Your* Lord:
 - Then You Need To Honor Him & Obey Him As Your Lord!
- Even As Jesus Asks:
 - In Luke 6:46 - “Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?”
- So - Even Though It Is Good For You:
 - To Consider Jesus & To Call Jesus:
 - Master / Teacher & Lord!
 - It Is Better For You To:
 - Conduct Yourself According To The Truth Of These Titles!
- And So - As Jesus Calls You To Serve Him:
 - You Need To Remember:
 - The Excellence Of Jesus:
 - As Your Master & Lord!
 - And - When He Tells You:
 - What He Wants You To Do For Him:
 - Listen & Obey!
- And - What Does He Want You To Do?
 - According To 13:14:

3. ***The Expectation Of The Lord:***

- That We Find Next In:
 - 13:14 - “If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet!”
 - The Key Word In This Verse Is:
 - “Ought!”
 - Has The Idea Of:
 - Owing Something!
 - And - What Is It That You “Owe?”
 - Loving Service To Others:
 - Especially “One Another!”
 - Other Christians!
 - This Obligation:
 - Is Far Greater Than:
 - What The World Considers Good! “Pay It Forward!”
 - Often Costs Very Little!
 - But - What Jesus Expects:
 - Can Cost You Much!
 - Even Your Life!
 - This Is The Expectation:
 - That Your Master & Lord:
 - Has For You & Every One Of His Disciples!
 - “Ye Also Ought To Wash One Another’s Feet!”
 - But - Here - We Need To Understand:
- The Extent Of This Expectation!
 - Because - To Wash Someone’s Feet:
 - Was Considered To Be:
 - The Most Menial & Even Humiliating Tasks:
 - Reserved For The Youngest Or Lowest Servant / Slave!
 - So - Any Other Kind Of Service:
 - Would Be Considered:
 - An Upgrade!
 - So - Jesus Is Not Just Talking About:
 - Washing Feet *Only* - But:
 - About All Kinds Of Service:
 - That May Lead Up To & Even Include:

- This Kind Of Service!
- By The Time Paul Wrote To Timothy:
 - In 1 Timothy 5:10:
 - Washing The Saint's Feet:
 - Became A Way To Describe:
 - Christian Hospitality In The Church!
- But - We Can Also See From This Verse:
- The Esteem Of This Expectation!
 - Why Did Jesus:
 - Wash The Feet Of His Disciples?
 - Because He Loved Them!
 - Because He Esteemed Them!
 - And He Wanted To Serve Them!
 - This Was The Opposite:
 - Of The Spirit That Was In That Room:
 - Up Until That Time!
 - Because - In Luke 22:24 - We Learn That:
 - "There Was Also A Strife Among Them Which Of The Should Be Accounted The Greatest!"
 - Though His Disciples:
 - Esteemed Themselves:
 - Jesus Esteemed Them:
 - Even Better Than:
 - Himself!
- And Now - Our Lord & Master:
 - Calls On Us To Do The Same!
 - If You Have Faith In Christ - And:
 - If You Are A Follower Of Christ:
 - Then He Expects You:
 - To Serve As He Served!
 - To The Greatest Extent! And:
 - With The Greatest Esteem!
 - When You Esteem Yourself:
 - To Be Greater Than Others:
 - You Will Expect *To Be* Served:
 - Rather Than Expend Yourself:
 - To Serve!
 - But - When You Esteem Jesus:
 - As Your Master & Lord:
 - Then You Have An Obligation:
 - To Learn From:
 - His Example - And:
 - To Obey:
 - His Expectation!
 - You Serve The Lord:
 - By Serving Each Other:
 - With The Same Kind Of:
 - Heart & Hands:
 - As The Lord!
 - "The Heart Of Jesus' Command Is A Humility And Helpfulness Toward Brothers And Sisters In Christ!"
(Don Carson)
 - Because - As We Find Next In:
 - 13:15 - We Need To Serve According To:

4. ***The Example Of The Lord!***

- Even As Jesus Tells Us:
 - "For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you!"
 - An "Example" Is A Pattern:

- That We Are To Follow!
 - And Jesus Practice In Service:
 - Is Now Our Pattern!
- Because - Jesus Himself:
 - Did As He Demands Of Us!
 - Practiced What He Preached To Us!
 - And - Treated Them As He Teaches Us:
 - To Treat Each Other!
- And So - This Is An Example:
 - Not For A Formal Ordinance:
 - Within The Church!
 - Like Foot-Washing!
 - But For An Informal, Ordinary:
 - Every-Day, Life-Long Opportunity:
 - For Us To Serve Each Other As Jesus Served Us!
- The Key Word In This Verse Is:
 - “As!”
 - “That Ye Should Do *AS* I Have Done To You!”
 - And - This Takes Us Back To:
 - How Jesus Served:
 - Back In 13:4-5! Remember?
- “He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. / After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded!”
- Jesus Served With:
 - An Intentional Plan!
 - Intentional Preparation!
 - An Intentional Purpose! And:
 - An Intentional Performance!
 - Jesus Was Intentional:
 - In His Service!
 - Vs. - “Random Acts!”
- And - There Is So Much:
 - We Still Need To Learn - And Apply:
 - When It Comes To:
 - Our Service For The Lord - And:
 - For Each Other!
 - How Much Is Still Missing:
 - In Our Service - If In Fact:
 - Service Is Not Missing:
 - Altogether?
 - But Then - We Also Need To Learn:
 - To Serve - According To:

5. ***The Explanation Of The Lord!***

- The Further Explanation Of The Lord:
 - That We Find In 13:16:
 - “Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him!”
 - Jesus Begins This Verse:
 - With A Statement:
 - That We Have Found 17 Times Already:
 - In The Book Of John!
 - “Verily, Verily!”
 - We Will Go On To Find This Statement:
 - A Total Of 25 Times In This Gospel!
 - But - Each Time:
 - It Comes Before A Truth:

- That Is Certain & Constant & Consequential For Us!
- So - We Need To Hear What Jesus Has To Say!
- But Then - Jesus Adds:
 - Some Very Common & General Truths:
 - That He Used:
 - On Other Occasions As Well!
 - But - With These Principles:
 - Jesus Explains *Why* We Need To Serve As He Calls Us To!
- We Need To Serve:
 - As The Lord Served:
 - Because - “The Servant Is Not Greater Than His Lord!”
 - In Other Words - If Jesus Is Your Lord - And:
 - He Served - Then:
 - You Need To Serve:
 - As He Did!
 - But - Just Because:
 - Jesus “Took Upon Him The Form Of A Servant!”
 - It Does Not Make Him Inferior:
 - To Those He Served!
 - Instead - It Enhances:
 - His Superiority & Majesty!
 - But Also:
- We Need To Submit:
 - As The Lord Submitted:
 - Because - “Neither He That Is Sent Greater Than He That Sent Him!”
 - Didn’t Jesus Describe Himself:
 - As One Who Was “Sent” - Many Times:
 - In This Gospel Alone?
 - And - As The “Sent One” / “Apostle” Of Our Salvation!
 - He Willingly Submitted Himself To:
 - The Will Of His Father In Heaven!
 - Even So - We Need To Remember:
 - That Jesus Is The One Who:
 - Not Only Saves Us - But Also:
 - Sends Us Into His Church & Into The World:
 - To Serve!
- And - We Are Not:
 - “Greater Than He That Sent” Us!
 - So - Take These Truths Heart!
 - If It Was Not Beneath The Dignity:
 - Of Jesus Christ:
 - Your Lord & Savior:
 - To Serve You!
 - How Can It Be Beneath You:
 - To Serve Each Other?
 - But Then - In 13:17 - We Also Find:

6. ***The Encouragement Of The Lord:***

- To Serve!
 - 13:17 - “If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them!”
 - This Is A Beatitude Of Promise!
 - “Happy” - “Blessed” You Are & Will Be:
 - When You Personally Apply:
 - What Jesus Has Just Taught!
 - “These Things” Refer To:
 - Principles Of Service:
 - That He Just Gave Us!
 - Even The:

- Examination, Excellence, Expectation, Example, And Explanation:
 - All Of The Lord!
- But - How Are We To:
 - “Do” Them? Well:
- When It Comes To:
 - The Examination Of The Lord:
 - Do Not Forget:
 - What Jesus Did:
 - Not Only For His Disciples:
 - But For You!
 - Keep His Service:
 - In Your Mind:
 - And Ponder It:
 - In Your Heart!
 - As You Remember:
 - The Service Of The Lord:
 - You Will Experience Greater Joy & Happiness & Blessing!
 - “Happy Are Ye If Ye Do Them!”
 - And - If You Do This!
- When It Comes To:
 - The Excellence Of The Lord:
 - Have Faith In:
 - Who Jesus Is!
 - He Truly Is:
 - The Master / Teacher!
 - And - He Is Your Teacher!
 - To Listen To & Learn From!
 - He Truly Is:
 - The Lord!
 - And - He Is Your Lord!
 - To Honor & Obey!
 - As Your Faith In Jesus:
 - Continues To Grow:
 - You Will Experience Greater Joy & Happiness & Blessing!
 - “Happy Are Ye If Ye Do Them!”
 - And - If You Do This!
- When It Comes To:
 - The Expectation Of The Lord:
 - Be Faithful To:
 - What He Has Called You To!
 - He Has Called You:
 - To - “In Lowliness Of Mind Let Each Esteem Other Better Than Themselves!” - To - “Look Not Every Man On His Own Things, But Every Man Also On The Things Of Others!” (Philippians 2:3-4)
 - As You Are Faithful:
 - To The Lord:
 - You Will Experience Even Greater Joy & Happiness & Blessing!
 - “Happy Are Ye If Ye Do Them!”
 - And - If You Do This!
- When It Comes To:
 - The Example Of The Lord:
 - Keep Following His Example:
 - By Serving As He Served!
 - In An Intentional Way!
 - Seeking Opportunities:
 - To Serve!
 - Starting Inside The Church & Continuing Outside The Church!
 - Because - As You Follow Him:

- You Will Continue:
 - To Experience Joy & Happiness & Blessing!
 - “Happy Are Ye If Ye Do Them!”
 - And - If You Do This!
- And - When It Comes To:
 - The Further Explanation Of The Lord:
 - Strive To Fulfill:
 - His Will For Your Life:
 - From Your Heart!
 - With The Same Kind Of:
 - Surrender & Submission:
 - That The Lord Displayed:
 - In All Of His Service:
 - For You!

Conclusion:

1. Are You Experiencing:
 - The Joy & Blessing:
 - Of Serving The Lord Today?
 - It Is Certainly True:
 - That No Matter How You Feel:
 - When You Serve:
 - You Are Already “Blessed” By The Lord:
 - Because Of Your Relationship With Him!
2. But - I Do Believe That:
 - Jesus Intended For There To Be:
 - An Active Blessing & Joy:
 - In His Service:
 - That Goes Deeper Than:
 - The Giddiness Of Worldly Happiness!
 - And - This Can Be Your Experience:
 - When You Serve The Lord:
 - According To How:
 - The Lord Served You!
3. May Your Service & My Service:
 - Become More & More:
 - Like The Master’s Service!
 - Because - When It Is:
 - 13:17 - “If Ye Know These Things, Happy Are Ye If Ye Do Them!”

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