

Sermon Notes for Reflection and Discussion - John 13:12-20
February 8, 2026

John 13:12-20

[12] When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? [13] You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. [14] If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. [15] For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. [16] Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. [17] If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. [18] I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' [19] I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. [20] Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

1 - Read and Observe

Read John 13:12-20 aloud. What do you observe about this passage? Who is speaking? To whom is he speaking? About what is he speaking?

2 - Message

Jamie Brown stated, "The message he has shown *to* us, he wishes to show *through* us." What does that mean? First, what is the message he has shown *to* us? In other words, washing his disciples' feet communicated what message? How would you describe it? Summarize it?

And second, what is the message he wishes to show *through* us? What will that require us to do? For whom are we asked to do it?

3 - Empowered

Jesus models for us what he wants us to do (John 13:5). He commands us to do likewise (John 13:14-15). And he empowers us to do it! How? See John 13:12, John 14:15-17, and John 16:13-15. How did Paul describe God's provision for us? See 2 Corinthians 9:8 and Philippians 4:13. How do you understand this? Do you find it assuring?

4 - Promise

Jesus' Gospel posture comes with a Gospel promise. What is it? See John 13:17. Have you ever experienced or received that promise? If so, perhaps you can describe an example.

Sermon Notes for Reflection and Discussion - John 13:12-20

February 8, 2026

5 - Grace

What does it feel like to wash the feet - care for, love, and serve - of someone who is simply ungrateful? Or someone who turns against you? Imagine Jesus washing Judas' feet knowing Judas would soon betray him. What did it feel like? Disappointment? Loss? Sorrow?

What does the application of this - this demonstration of humility, grace, and service - look like in your relationships? Does the Lord bring to mind anyone whom he is asking you to move toward? To forgive? To love and serve?

6 - Other thoughts?

Do you have other thoughts - or questions - about this passage? And this sermon? Does it inform the work the Lord began in you? Your identity? Your love for others? Your movement toward others? Your service?