

# YA' GOTTA LOVE (JESUS WASHES THE DISCIPLES' FEET)



**John 13:1–28**

BIBLICAL PASSAGE

**John 13:15**

MEMORY VERSE

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. **John 13:15**

Have you ever been in a worship experience where a foot washing has taken place? How did it make you feel—spiritual, uneasy, servant-like, or uncomfortable? If you felt a little squeamish, maybe it's because this just isn't a common practice in our day as it was in Jesus'. We don't all travel dusty, dirty roads on foot with sandaled feet as was done in that time period. Handling the feet of others really isn't something we all want to do.

Read John 13:1–28. When Jesus told His disciples that they, too, were to wash one another's feet as He had washed theirs, it was the concept, not the act itself, which was to be carried out. Jesus wanted His followers to know that there was nothing so demeaning and servant-like that

His disciples could not do for others. It is the spirit in which it is done that matters, not the distinct act itself.

We live in a society today that doesn't value a servant spirit very much. Everyone is pretty much out for himself or herself. Let's face it, the news media doesn't give nearly as much time to humble acts as it does selfish acts.

Our youth today need us to be an example for them as Jesus was for His disciples. They need to see that serving others can be the norm. After all, our expressions through service to others speak much louder than our words. If we want to be on mission with God, we have to do as He has done and continues to do—offer ourselves in grace.

## FAMILY DEVOTION TIME

### Connect . . .

First, the family collects items such as a large bowl with warm water, a towel, and soap in order to perform a foot washing with each other. One family member volunteers to wash the feet of everyone in the family. Note the reactions and/or responses of family members as this is done. Then, the family discusses: **How did this make you feel?** Finally, a family member reads: **When Jesus washed the feet of His disciples, they also felt uneasy, but for different reasons.**

### Explore . . .

First, a family member reads John 13:1–28. Then, the family discusses: **Why do you think Peter and the other disciples might have been uneasy about Jesus washing their feet? Who typically washed people's feet in that day and time? What do you believe Jesus was really emphasizing in this act?**

### Transform . . .

The family discusses: **What are acts of service that you typically do for others? What is your attitude when performing these acts? What are some things that could be done today that could be equated with that of washing feet in Jesus' day? Name someone you could do this for and when you could do it.**

*Pray that your family members will begin to act in servant roles, displaying the grace of God.*