

# Foot Washing

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*March 2*

*Read: John 13:1-17*

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Oh I can imagine how difficult it was for Peter to let Jesus wash his feet. Not so much because Jesus was acting like a servant. Shoot, we can make that sound noble enough. But feet are ugly. And to surrender my feet for someone else's inspection, well that's just a little too close for comfort.

Foot washing was common enough, but still this was a very odd occurrence for Peter. A man's feet were washed by his wife or by children, or maybe a very gracious host. So Jesus was acting the host of this party.

And don't we usually treat Jesus like the guest in our lives? – an honored guest, as Peter would have eagerly asserted, but still a guest. We say, "I invited Jesus into my life." But Jesus demonstrates that he is the host that takes us in – to wash the lowliest parts of our lives. He was pointing to what his death would accomplish – a washing from the dirt and grime of sin.

Peter does finally let Jesus wash his feet. But of course the story comes back upon us. Are we able to let Jesus wash our feet? That is, will we let his death cleanse all the ugliness and brokenness of our lives? But more than that, will we let Jesus love us and host us? Or do we treat him like a guest – at arm's length, not daring to let him see the ungracious parts of our lives?

***Prayer: Help me to give up trying to impress you Jesus. You can go into every back corner of my life because I know that despite whatever you see, your love will invite me into your presence. Thank you that my sin is washed away. AMEN***

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