Passage: John 13:1-20

***"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you“ John 13:14-15***

**Washing of disciple’s feet**

This passage from John’s gospel of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples is one of the significant events of Maundy Thursday during Holy Week. The events narrated here occurred while Jesus was with His disciples to have the Passover feast. The Passover was a Jewish feast to remember Israel’s exodus from Egyptian bondage. On that occasion, God went through Egypt slaying the firstborn sons of all the Egyptians, but sparing the firstborn of Israel. We all know that story.

Here John tells us that Jesus knew that He would die, yet He went ahead as planned. This proves that He loved His own until the end. He was willing to die because He knew it was the only way people could be saved.

Washing of feet was customary and was considered an act of hospitality where people generally traveled by foot, wearing sandals, walking in hot, dusty sand. Washing the feet of visitors was done to comfort guests, meet their needs, and to welcome them. It was often done by servants and was considered a menial task. Jesus offered to wash the feet of the disciples and we see that Peter objected to this initially but later on allowed Him. Jesus knew what Judas had determined to do, but despite this, he washed his feet as well.

He did not differentiate among any of his disciples based on their current or future deeds. The disciples had disputed among themselves about which of them would have the greatest place of honor in Jesus’ kingdom. This act by Jesus showed that what is important is service, not authority or greatness in man’s ways of looking at greatness.

Are we willing to serve the Lord if no benefits are offered? Do we try to extract glory for our actions or achievements? Do we advertise our service to those who do not know of our “deeds”? Does humility come naturally to us or do we have to feign it? One who is truly humble does not seek or deliberately demonstrate their humility! Imagine how different our world would be if we gave the kind of love to others that God has given to us through Jesus.

**Prayer:** Lord, teach us to serve you with humility and help us to be willing to serve in whatever capacity others need, no matter how humble, and to not think we are too good to do certain tasks.