

## Digging Deeper into John 13:1-17

### Chat

- Are you good at receiving gifts or do you prefer to give?
- What makes it difficult for some people to receive from others?

### Study

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+13&version=NIV>

*Due to dusty roads, footwashing was commonplace in NT biblical times. It could be for a daily cleansing ritual, a religious act or as a sign of hospitality. It was considered to be a degrading task and would never be done by someone of higher status.*

### Read John 13:1-17

- What is the background to what Jesus does (v.1-2)?
- What is the connection between Jesus' confidence and assurance in his relationship with his Father God and his act of humble service to his disciples (v.3-4)?
- If you'd been one of the disciples at the meal, what would you have thought when Jesus started to wash your feet?
- Why do you think Peter, at first, didn't want Jesus to wash his feet (v.6-8)?
- What makes him jump to the other extreme and want Jesus to wash his head and hands too (v.8-9)?
- Jesus' words in v.8 and v.10 seem to suggest that his washing the disciples' feet is symbolic of something else. What do you think that might be?
- Verses 2, 10-11 tell us that Judas Iscariot was present. Even though Jesus knew what Judas would do that night, he still washed his feet. What does that say to you?
- Do you think that Jesus' instruction in v.14 (see v.14-17) is to be taken literally? If not, how can we follow the example Jesus shows us here?

### Think

*"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you should also wash one another's feet"*

It is when we have experienced Christ's love and grace that we can show that love and grace to others.

- Are you able to accept what Jesus has done for you?
- How can you show humble service and love to others?

