

DEEPER SERVICE—Phil & Ruth

John 13:1-17 Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

¹ It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." ⁹ "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!" ¹⁰ Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. ¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³ "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Growing deeper in our service

1. HEARING FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

Revelations - whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the church

Like a report card from our heavenly headmaster in how we have been serving and going - then some correction, and then promises about what they can get if they get it right

What is the Spirit of God saying to our church?

I believe as we grow deeper into relationship we will grow deeper in our service to God

Relationship must come first then comes our service

What would God want us to serve as a church?

The model being the church as the centre

To be the servant of all is to be the servant of one

2. OPPORTUNITY

John 21:6—He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Phil's Opinion - the day of the big evangelist is nearly done, now is the time for the church to rise up and make a difference in the local community - zero in on a target

We need to become a church with a better fragrance and flavour in the community

Drawing alongside those in need who need help

Our leaders summit - elders gave a report - the church was beginning more free and healthy

Is that for our own benefit or to go out and serve alongside

3. PUTTING IT INTO ACTION

Ephesians 2:20 He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

1 Cor 13 love is not boastful or envious

John 13:34 a new commandment - love one another as Christ has loved us

John 4:34 "my food", said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."

Essence of serving - wanting to help and serve alongside people

Have to keep our heart right - when we are serving and it starts to get hard and frustrating - we need to go back and get our relationship right.

It is about serving with no hidden agenda

Examine your heart and motivation and know that we are doing it with our hearts right before God

People will come to Christ when you just step up and serve