

Jesus the Servant Leader

John 13:4-17

John the apostle, tells us of the night around the table that Jesus taught the Disciple's a life- lesson in humility and lordship. When Jesus is Lord of a man's life, that man will be a servant like Jesus.

Jesus never measured any man by how many servants he has, but rather by how many men he serves.

The key to servant leadership is Humility Vs. 4,5

Jesus took off His robe and dressed like a slave in nothing but a towel.

The true servant- leader serves without being asked. Vs. 4

None of the Disciples asked Jesus to wash their feet. He volunteered to do so. Even so we must volunteer love and service to others, out of the overflow of His lordship in us.

The true servant- leader gives without any thought of return. Vs 4

Jesus did not ask or expect the Disciple's to wash His feet in a return gesture. He gave with no thought of return, and so must we.

The true servant- leader does not chose whom he will serve. Vs. 10,11

Notice that Jesus even washed the feet of His enemy, Judas. Even so we cannot pick and choose who is worthy of God's grace & mercy. We just love & serve others as He did.

The true servant leader must learn to receive as well as to give.Vs. 8

Peter did not want to receive this gift from His Master, but we all must not be prideful and learn to receive as well as give.

The true servant-leader must model the example of Christ. Vs. 14,15

Jesus gave this example as a life-message for all His followers. Evidence that we are His disciples is that we demonstrate His love in us to others. Servanthood is a mark of His Lordship in us.

The true servant leader "examples" Love=dressed in a towel Vs. 15-17

Love is active, it is something we do. "Faith without works is dead" James will say. Maybe He remembered the example of his older brother!