

# Week 6 - October 28, 2020

Today's reflection looks at the Last Supper when Jesus gathered his disciples together to share the Passover meal. Jesus knew he would soon die on the cross and that makes the conversation in this passage something of Jesus' 'last words' to his disciples, at least until after his resurrection. Read the story and pay attention to what he tells them about being good disciples.

## The Gospel of John 13, Verses 1 - 20

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end. The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over. So, during supper, fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God, he rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Master, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, **"Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me."** Simon Peter said to him, **"Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."** Jesus said to him, "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over; so you are clean, but not all." **For he knew who would betray him; for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."**

So when he had washed their feet [and] put his garments back on and reclined at table again, he said to them, **"Do you realize what I have done for you? You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do. Amen, amen, I say to you, no slave is greater than his master nor any messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it. I am not speaking of all of you. I know those whom I have chosen. But so that the scripture might be fulfilled, 'The one who ate my food has raised his heel against me.' From now on I am telling you before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe that I AM. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."**

# Reflection

In this story Jesus washes the feet of his disciples. A lot of people probably think washing someone else's feet sounds gross! Do you? **Why do you think Jesus chooses to wash their feet?**

**Why do you think Peter doesn't want to let Jesus wash his feet?** Jesus tells Peter that Peter will not receive an inheritance from him. What does Jesus mean by this, and why does it make Peter change his mind?

The disciples called Jesus their "teacher" and their "master." Is Jesus our teacher and master, too? What kinds of things does Jesus teach and command people to do?

Jesus says "*I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.*" **What model does he want his disciples to follow?** How do you think we can follow this model and be his disciples, too?

The Gospel says Jesus "...loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end." Who does Jesus love, and what does it mean that he loves them "to the end" ?

Re-read the gospel story and reflect on the model Jesus gives his disciples. As you read it again, think about if you can follow Jesus' model, too. Finally, pray together the "Apostles' Creed" which summarizes the beliefs the disciples of Jesus would spread around the world after his Resurrection.

I believe in God,  
the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
He descended into hell;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of Saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting