



**Life Group Discussion Guide**  
**The Practices of Grace**  
**Serving – John 13:1-17**  
Doug Slachter  
March 12, 2023

Main thought: Jesus gave us an example of expressing love through surprisingly humble servanthood, which we have the blessing of being able to replicate in our own lives.

Application notes:

The greatest example of servanthood:

1. Jesus gives an example of love through foot washing. (vs. 4-5)
2. Peter is frustrated. (vs. 6)
3. We need to be washed by Jesus. (vs. 8)

What we learn from Jesus' example:

1. No one is above serving
2. No one is below being served
3. No one will know you belong to Christ if you don't serve each other.

The blessings of serving:

1. The blessing of serving God.
2. The blessing of serving others.
3. The blessing of inviting others through serving.

Ice-Breaker

- Share your most or least favorite chore to do around the house.

Verse of the week

- What is a verse or truth from God's Word that has stood out to you this week from your own personal Bible reading?

Digging In

Read or recap John 13:1-17, and discuss the following questions.

- What stood out to you from this passage or the message on Sunday?
- Why was Peter so frustrated with Jesus washing his feet? What are ways that we can try to dictate to God how we think things should be instead of trusting what He is doing?



- What did Jesus mean when He said, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with me”? How should we differentiate between the full cleansing of salvation and the spiritual “foot washing” that Jesus was doing with the disciples?
- What example was Jesus setting for His disciples through washing their feet? (See verses 13:13-16) Why is it so important that Jesus even washed Judas’ feet?
- Which of the three principles, Jesus modeled do you resonate with most? Why?
  1. No one is above serving
  2. No one is below being served
  3. No one will know you belong to Christ if you don’t serve each other
- What do these blessings, mentioned in the teaching, look like in your everyday life?
  1. The blessing of serving others
  2. The blessing of serving God
  3. The blessing of inviting others through serving

#### Application

- What person of “low status” can you serve this week and how? (i.e. a person you might not look favorably towards or who you might overlook altogether. This could be a person you struggle with, or simply a person you don’t normally notice, like a gas station attendant, a person you don’t normally interact with, etc.)
- What ministry at church do you serve in? If none, what ministry is God calling you to serve in so that you can be a part of what God is doing in our community of believers? (For more info on serving opportunities, go to [southhillschurch.org](http://southhillschurch.org) and click on the “Get Connected” tab, or fill out a Communication Card next Sunday.)

#### As a group pray as you consider the following:

- Thank God for the blessings that come with serving.
- For God to soften your heart towards those you struggle serving.