

Life Group #5: Amazing Love
John 13:1-17

Objectives: We want people to know that Jesus loves us by washing and serving us. We want to respond by accepting his cleansing and by serving/loving one another.

Getting to Know You (15 minutes)

What is the worst job you've ever had? Why?

Launch Use your own words... (3 minutes)

We have been doing a series looking at the life of Jesus called Amazed. Tonight, we are going to look at a passage where the disciples were amazed when Jesus willingly performed the worse job of his day.

Explore

Read John 13:1-11

Verses 1-3: The scene

- **What does Jesus know about himself and his plans for the next several hours?** (He knew he was going to die on the cross so He wanted to show His love to the disciples and prepare them for life without Him. Jesus knew He was God and had ultimate power, he also knew he would be betrayed by a friend.)
- **Why do you think John chose to give us this information?**

Verses 4-5

- **Why is it so shocking or amazing that Jesus washed the disciple's feet?** (Foot washing was the worst "dirty job" at the time. It was the role of the lowest slave. It is amazing that He washed the feet of the man who would betray him (Judas) and the one who would deny him (Peter).

Verses 6-10

- **Knowing the awful nature of this job, Peter's response in verse 6&8 makes sense. In your own words describe how Jesus responds to Peter in verses 7&8?** (The foot washing was a physical metaphor for the spiritual cleansing that each of us need. The foot washing looks forward to Jesus "washing our feet" by dying on the cross for our sins. We can't be in a relationship with him unless he "washes" us.)
- **Jesus said "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." That indicates that we too need to be "washed" by Jesus. How do we allow Him to wash us today?** (We accept his death on the cross as

our payment for our sins. This is the good news that we can't wash ourselves, but that we need to allow Jesus to "wash us" by accepting His death for us!)

- **What keeps people from allowing Jesus to wash them today?** (Pride, some don't know they need to be washed, some don't know how to accept His washing them, some do not think that He would want to wash them etc... You should offer to talk to everyone about this for their own life.)

Jesus was making a point about Himself in verses 2-11, but in verses 12-17 He has a lesson for the disciples.

Read verses 12-17

- **What is the lesson Jesus wants them to catch?**
- **The rest of the Bible never describes the disciples washing feet. Did they miss the message? How did the disciples practically live this out?** (Read Acts 2:42-47; also they were known for serving and loving one another to the point of even dying for one another. They surrendered their rights in order to take care of each other).

Apply (you need at least 15 minutes!)

- **Going back to the passage, what draws you to Jesus; why or how is He amazing to you here?**
- **After washing their feet, in v.15 He says, "you also should do just as I have done to you". What makes it difficult to love and serve others in this way?**
- **How does receiving his love and cleansing enable you to love others?**
- **As a Life Group, how can we practically love one another like this? What are ways we can help each other draw closer to God? How can we bow low and serve each other?** (This is your chance to take your LG deeper and develop community).
- **In small groups- How do you want to grow in humbly loving others? What is one step**

you can take this week to obey Jesus' command? Pray for one another...

Announce

- Describe Fall Getaway...