



## Washing One Another's Feet

- Church traditions differ on whether Jesus was speaking literally or figuratively when he told the disciples to “do as I have done to you” in reference to His washing their feet. The point here isn’t to debate that issue, but to personally experience Jesus’ humility toward our brothers and sisters in Christ, and to reflect on the love that Jesus has shown all of us through His humble obedience on the cross.

The act of washing someone else’s feet is a spiritually cleansing activity. It provides a few moments to think very concretely about the quality (sacrificial) and the quantity (unlimited) of Jesus’ love.

### When?

You may choose to do this:

- As part of a regular, weekly youth gathering; maybe a closing activity after a teaching on John 13.
- As part of a special event, maybe in conjunction with a Maundy service that might include communion.

### How?

Suggestions for washing feet:

- Work it out so that guys wash guys’ feet and girls wash girls’ feet.
- Use buckets or basins. The floor may get wet, so choose an appropriate location.
- It’s good to have a sink nearby; keep the water in the basins warm and fresh by changing it frequently.
- Have a fresh towel for every two people.
- To make sure everyone’s feet get washed, sit in a circle. Have students pair up, or go around the circle, each student washing the feet of the person on the left. The last student should wash the feet of the first student.
- Communicate that students can opt out of the activity. Make sure they feel welcome to simply observe, or they may want to help with the towels and water basins.

