

RELEARNING ANCIENT BIBLE STORIES IN A BRAND-NEW WAY

EPIC TALES

TOO



Last week...

When He [Jesus] had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth.” The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him**, and let him go.”**

John 11:43-44



Where is God in the midst of tragedy?

**Right where He always is,
on the throne of Heaven,
reaching out to us in love.**

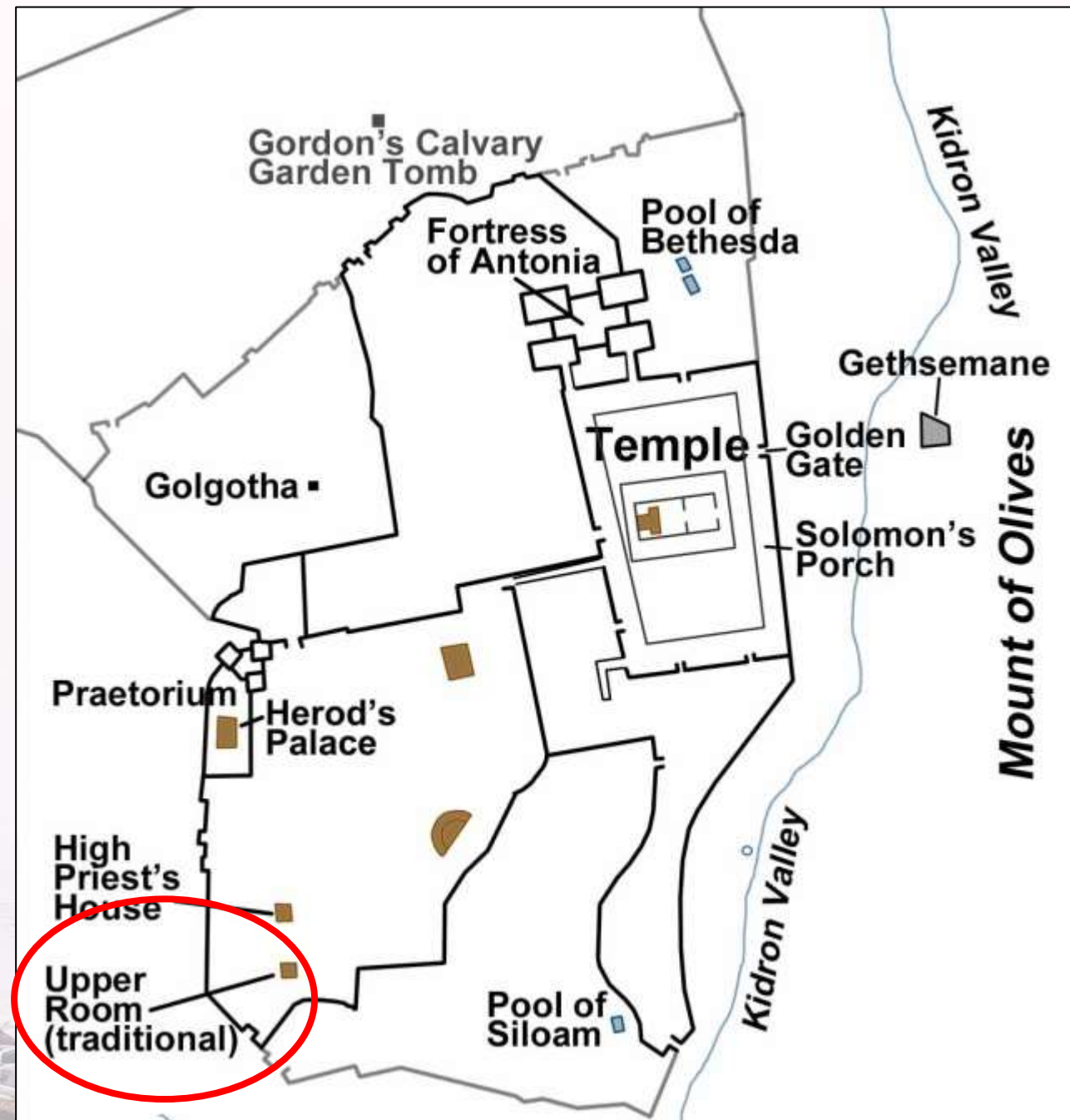


Jesus the Servant

John 13



Map of Jerusalem in the days of Jesus



Upper Room today





Upper Room on Mount Zion

Now before the Feast of the Passover, **Jesus knowing that His hour had come** that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. John 13:1

When do you think the love of Jesus stops?

Where do you think the love of Jesus stops?



- And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does that have to do with us? My **hour** has not yet come.” John 2:4
- So Jesus said to them, “My **time** is not yet here, but your **time** is always opportune.” John 7:6
- Jesus said, “Go up to the feast yourselves; I do not go up to this feast because My **time** has not yet fully come.” John 7:8
- So they were seeking to seize Him; and no man laid his hand on Him, because His **hour** had not yet come. John 7:30
- These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one seized Him, because His **hour** had not yet come. John 8:20
- And Jesus answered them, saying, “The **hour** has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.” John 12:23

- Jesus said, “Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this **hour**’? But for this purpose I came to this hour.” John 12:27
- Now before the Feast of the Passover, **Jesus knowing that His hour had come** that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. John 13:1
- Jesus said, “Behold, an **hour** is coming, and has already come, for you to be scattered, each to his own home, and to leave Me alone; and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.”
John 16:32
- Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, “Father, the **hour** has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You” John 17:1

During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God, John 13:2-3

***Can you believe that someone could walk and talk with Jesus personally and still not follow Him as Savior?**

[Earlier]

So Jesus said to the twelve, “You do not want to go away also, do you?” Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God.” Jesus answered them, “Did I Myself not choose you, the twelve, and **yet one of you is a devil?” Now He meant Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray Him. John 6:67-71**

[Later in this Passover meal]

When Jesus had said this, He became troubled in spirit, and testified and said, “Truly, truly, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me.” The disciples began looking at one another, at a loss to know of which one He was speaking. There was reclining on Jesus’ bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved [Apostle John]. So Simon Peter gestured to him, and said to him, “Tell us who it is of whom He is speaking.” He, leaning back thus on Jesus’ bosom, said to Him, “Lord, who is it?” Jesus then answered, “That is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him.” So when He had dipped the morsel, He took and gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot.

After the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Therefore Jesus said to him, “What you do, do quickly.” John 13:21-27

[Jesus] got up from supper [Passover Seder meal on Thursday night], and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself. Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. John 13:4-5

Walking in sandals on the filthy roads of Israel in the first century made it imperative that feet be washed before a communal meal, especially since people reclined at a low table and feet were very much in evidence. When Jesus rose from the table and began to wash the feet of the disciples, He was doing the work of the lowliest of servants. - Got Questions



The Humility of Washing Another's Feet

- When the servants of David came to Abigail at Carmel, they spoke to her, saying, “David has sent us to you to take you as his wife.” She arose and bowed with her face to the ground and said, “Behold, your maidservant is a maid to **wash the feet** of my lord’s servants.” 1 Samuel 25:40-41
- A widow is to be put on the list only if she is not less than sixty years old, having been the wife of one man, having a reputation for good works; and if she has brought up children, if she has shown hospitality to strangers, if she has **washed the saints’ feet**, if she has assisted those in distress, and if she has devoted herself to every good work. 1 Timothy 5:9-10

The Humility of The Creator God

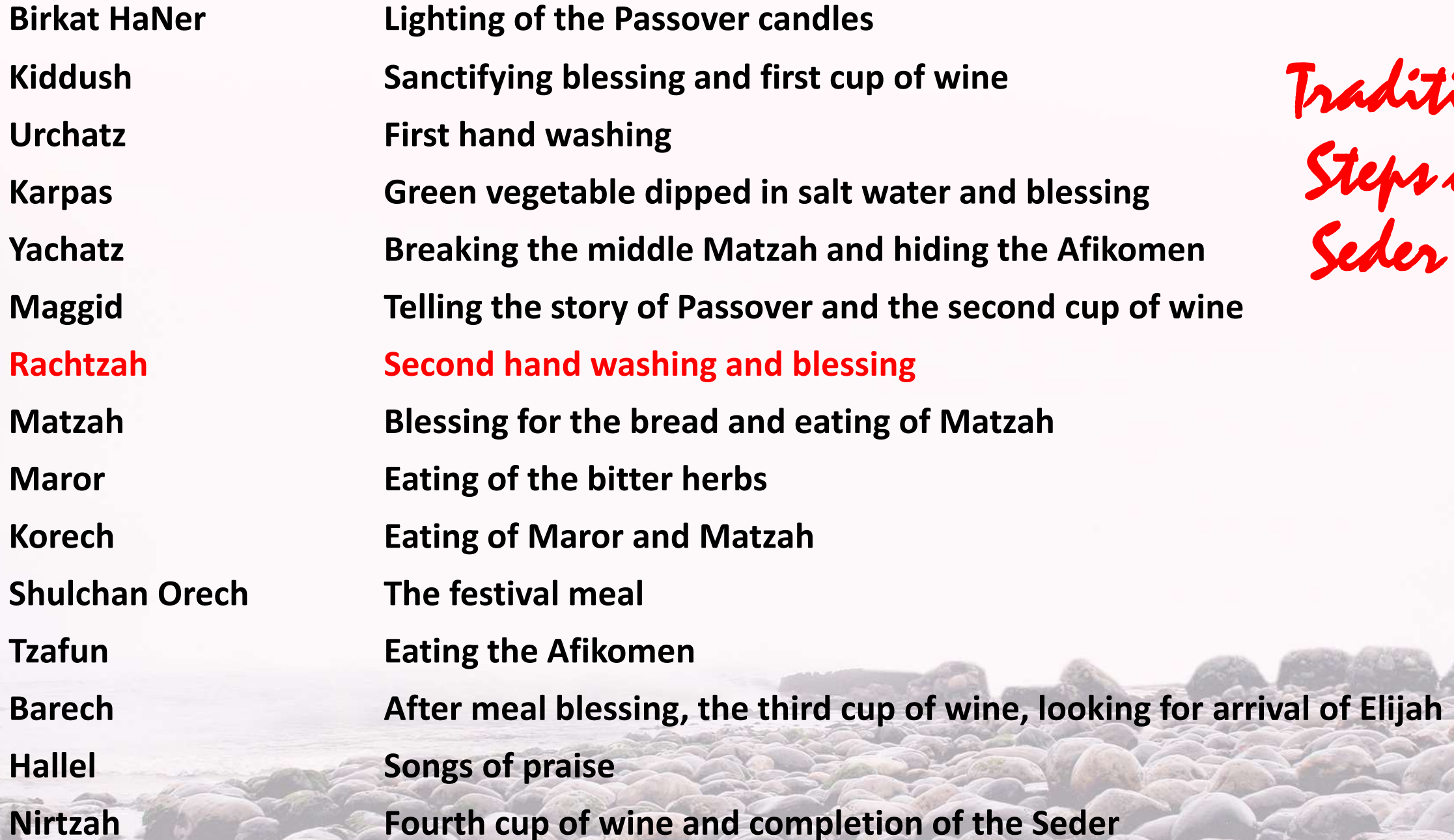
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

John 1:1-3

Jesus told His disciples, “just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:28



Birkat HaNer	Lighting of the Passover candles
Kiddush	Sanctifying blessing and first cup of wine
Urchatz	First hand washing
Karpas	Green vegetable dipped in salt water and blessing
Yachatz	Breaking the middle Matzah and hiding the Afikomen
Maggid	Telling the story of Passover and the second cup of wine
Rachtzah	Second hand washing and blessing
Matzah	Blessing for the bread and eating of Matzah
Maror	Eating of the bitter herbs
Korech	Eating of Maror and Matzah
Shulchan Orech	The festival meal
Tzafun	Eating the Afikomen
Barech	After meal blessing, the third cup of wine, looking for arrival of Elijah
Hallel	Songs of praise
Nirtzah	Fourth cup of wine and completion of the Seder

*Traditional
Steps of the
Seder Meal*

***Rachtzah* רחצה**

Second hand washing and blessing

The second symbolic washing of the hands in the Seder meal reinforces personal sanctification as we continue the celebration of the Passover.

At this time in the meal, say this blessing:

Baruch Attah Adonai Eloheinu Melech haOlam, asher kidshanu b'mitsvotav v'tsivanu al neteelat yadayim.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us concerning the washing of hands.

Yeshua appears to have taken Rachtzah one step further by washing the feet of His disciples, providing us with an unparalleled lesson in servanthood and humility.



So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, “Lord, do You wash my feet?” John 13:6

“The reluctance of Jesus’ disciples to volunteer for such a task is, to say the least, culturally understandable; their shock at His volunteering is not merely the result of being shame-faced, it is their response to finding their sense of the fitness of things shattered. But here Jesus reverses normal roles. His act of humility is as unnecessary as it is stunning, and is simultaneously a display of love (John 13:1), a symbol of saving cleansing (John 13:6–9), and a model of Christian conduct (John 13:12–17).” – D.A. Carson

Jesus answered and said to him, “What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter [after Jesus’ death and resurrection].” Peter said to Him, “Never shall You wash my feet!” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.” John 13:7-8

***This does not mean, “Unless you are baptized you cannot be saved,” but, “Unless I wash your sins away by My atoning death you have no real relationship to Me.”** – Bible Knowledge Commentary

***but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and **the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.** 1 John 1:7**

Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.” Jesus said to him, “He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.” For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, “Not all of you are clean.” John 13:9-11

Salvation is a one-time act of justification by faith, but the lifelong process of **sanctification** is one of washing from the stain of sin we experience as we walk through the world. Peter and the disciples—all except Judas Iscariot, who never belonged to Christ—needed only this temporal cleansing. – Got Questions

Jesus offers to make us spiritually clean

How can I be washed for **salvation**?

- He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21
- For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9

Jesus offers to make us spiritually clean

How can I be washed for **sanctification?**

- **I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. Galatians 2:20**
- **Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23**
- **All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.”

John 13:12-14

Your greatest test of servant leadership may be to wash the feet of those who may soon betray you. – Pastor Gene Wilkes

Jesus said, “For I gave you an **example** [ὑπόδειγμα hypodeigma, “pattern”] that you also should do as I did to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him.” John 13:15-16

Are you a willing slave of Jesus?

Are you willing to follow the example of the master?

“This passage emphasizes inner humility, not a physical rite.”



- **Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, bowing down and making a request of Him. And He said to her, “What do you wish?” She said to Him, “Command that in Your kingdom these two sons of mine may sit one on Your right and one on Your left.” But Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?” They said to Him, “We are able.” He said to them, “My cup you shall drink; but to sit on My right and on My left, this is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by My Father.” And hearing this, the ten became indignant with the two brothers. Matthew 20:20-24**
- **They came to Capernaum; and when He was in the house, He began to question them, “What were you discussing on the way?” But they kept silent, for on the way they had discussed with one another which of them was the greatest. Mark 9:33-34**

Have this **attitude** in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself** by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. **Philippians 2:5-8**

As followers of Jesus, we are to emulate Him, serving one another in lowliness of heart and mind, seeking to build one another up in humility and love. When we seek the preeminence, we displease the Lord who promised that true greatness in His kingdom is attained by those with a servant's heart (Mark 9:35; 10:44). – Got Questions

**Jesus said, “If you know these things,
you are blessed if you do them.”**

John 13:17

**In the last few hours preceding the Cross, Jesus was
still teaching and modeling for His disciples what true
humility and grace and love look like.**



Will we follow His example?

- **If you knew you were going to die in a few hours, would you be concerned with serving others?**
- **Would you wash the feet of someone you knew was about to betray you?**
- **Could we learn to love people “to the end?”**
- **How can followers of Jesus serve like Jesus?**

Jesus said, “If you **know these things,
you are blessed if you **do** them.”**

John 13:17

Do you want to be blessed by God?

1. Know what Jesus says (study)

2. Do what Jesus says (obey)