

# TRUE LOVE SERVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

## WORSHIP

Can't Stop Singing,  
You are my King  
(Amazing Love),  
Wonderful Cross

## WELCOME

Who is one public figure in history, present and past, who lives out servanthood? Briefly explain why.

## WORD

### READ IT!

JOHN 13:5-17

Then He poured water into the basin, and began washing the disciples' feet and wiping them with the towel which He had tied around Himself. So, He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, You are washing my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not realize right now, but you will understand later." Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no place with Me." 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; otherwise, he is completely clean. And you are clean—but not all of you." For He knew the one who was betraying Him; it was for this reason that He said, "Not all of you are clean." Then, 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 for you? You call Me 'Teacher' and 'Lord'; and you are correct, for so I am. So, if I, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example, so that you also would do just as I did for 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. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

### PARAPHRASE IT!

Restate the verses in your own words.

### TALK ABOUT IT!

- What did you learn about God?
- What did you learn about people?
- What did you learn about following Jesus?
- Would you characterize your life today as a life in obedience to God and service to others? Why or why not?

### POINT IT OUT!

God designed us to serve and to make a difference with our life. The Bible is clear and emphatic in **Ephesians 2:10** that we were created by God to do good works: to serve God by serving others. These good works are things that God has already prepared for us to do. Whenever you serve others in any way, you're actually serving God and fulfilling one of your purposes in life. **He wants us to serve Him by serving others.** We are saved in order to serve. When you love God, you will serve people. Service is all about people. **You can serve others without loving God, but you cannot love God without serving others.**

### 1. JESUS DESCRIBES THE LOVE THAT SERVES

Jesus had an encounter with a lawyer who asked Him how to inherit eternal life (**Luke 10:25-27**) putting Jesus to the test. Jesus being a master teacher, knew the answer but He allowed the lawyer to answer the question himself. The lawyer quoted from **Deuteronomy 6:5** and **Leviticus 19:18 (v.27)**. Jesus replies in **v.28** to do what the Law says and the lawyer further asks who is his neighbor (**v.29**).

Jesus then tells the lawyer and those standing around about the parable of the Good Samaritan (**Luke 10:30-37**) describing the love that serves. **We are not saved because we love and serve others. We love and serve others because we are saved.** God sends us tests to build our faith, to see where we need to grow spiritually, and to glorify God as others watch how we respond to those tests. The priest and the Levite had no mercy nor compassion for the half dead man while the Samaritan saw a man in need and he responded. We must **see the need** whether great or small. All of them saw the need but the priest and the Levite failed to serve with love. They put themselves above the need. Unless we see the need as greater than our personal priorities, we will never serve with love. The Samaritan saw this stranger with compassion (**v.33**). His heart was filled with pity and pain. We need to have a heart of God to see the needs of people around us and to take action in service. **Philippians 2:3-4** clearly says it's not about us. It's reaching out to other people and seeing what they need and we do that with humility. To see the need of others with compassion is to see beyond yourself. It's seeing others as more important than yourself. **Love sees beyond self and willingly serves.**

The Samaritan shared his possessions when he saw the need (**v.34**). We ought to **share our possessions** too. Part of our possessions is time.

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The Good Samaritan most likely was on a journey for business and this detour certainly cost him money and time. **True love always costs. If there is no cost, there is no love.**

The Samaritan in **v.35** went out of his way to **save the person**. He was so concerned with this man's life that he made all the necessary arrangements to ensure that he will be saved. He would come back to repay the debt. So much like what Jesus has done for us. He paid every debt and promises to return again. **Matthew 25:40** says that every time we serve others for Jesus, we're doing it actually for Him. The greatest need of others that we can serve is their need for the love of Jesus—they need us to share Christ to them.

### 2. JESUS DEMONSTRATES THE LOVE THAT SERVES

Jesus Himself demonstrates the love to His disciples until the end (**John 13:1**). No one was willing to do the task of washing the others' feet and there was no servant around. Jesus **saw the need** and acted on it (**John 13:4-5**). He had compassion and affection in His heart for them and as the Master, did this act of love to be an example. **If serving is below you, leadership is beyond you (Luke 22:26-27).**

Jesus **shared His possessions**. Possessions are not merely material wealth but they are costly. He is the Creator, Rabbi, Teacher, Master, Son of Man, Son of God, Messiah, King, Lord, and Savior; yet, He took on the role of the lowest slave. Jesus set aside His comfort, His position of authority, and His heavenly role. **In a world filled with sinful pride, Jesus shows us that the greatest is the one who serves others in humility.**

**Philippians 2:6-7** clearly tells us that He modeled humility. Jesus went down on His knees doing this humiliating, degrading task: washing the dirty feet of sinners. This symbolic act of washing the disciples' feet was really pointing to His final act of dying on the cross. Jesus' mission was to cleanse us from our sins and to **save us**. The dirt on their feet symbolized the dirt of sin that stained their souls. The water symbolized Jesus' own blood that washes the dirt of sin from our lives forever. Jesus was actually cleansing their hearts more than their feet. Today, we need to confess our sins directly to Jesus (**1 John 1:9**) for our cleansing. We need to come to Him daily to be cleansed of the sins we commit as we walk in this world.

Jesus presented Himself as a servant even to Judas, Peter, and the other disciples who either betrayed Him, denied Him or abandoned Him in His suffering. **Jesus will lovingly keep reaching out to you desiring that you accept His gift of love.**

Obedying what He teaches is where the real blessing is (**John 13:17**). Jesus wants you to do as He has done to touch people's lives that will change them forever. He's counting on you to be His hands, His feet, His mouth, and His heart in the lives of others.

## WORKS APPLY IT!

Based on this lesson on TRUE LOVE SERVES, write down your action point to apply what you learned. Make it your "I will..." statement and follow the S.M.A.R.T. guideline to come up with a do-able action point.

Simple  
Measurable  
Appropriate  
Realistic  
Time-bound

"I will \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## SHARE IT!

Who will you share these truths to this week?

## PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray to see the needs of others and for opportunities to serve to meet those needs. Show compassion, humility, and kindness to everyone. Share your resources to anyone who has a need you can meet. Especially share the gospel to them.

## WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

### I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

### II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation
- Wisdom and timely, effective response to the pandemic

### III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

### IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

### V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends



**45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."**

**Mark 10:45**