

## SMALL GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Watch the video summary of the **August 17, 2014 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "The Question of Servanthood." Please read the sermon passage (John 13:1-17) together out loud.

### Small Group Questions (John 13:1-17)

#### Sermon Outline:

FOR TRUE BELIEVERS, CHRIST'S CROSS PROVIDES . . .

1. **The perfect display of humility** (1-5)
  - a. What Jesus knew: his hour had finally come, Judas would betray him and his father had given everything into his hands. Jesus had every reason NOT to serve.
  - b. What Jesus did: picked up a towel to wash his servants' feet.
2. **Our only hope for forgiveness** (6-11)
  - a. The foot washing points ahead to the cross itself.
  - b. Peter wants no part of washed feet, and then he wants a full bath. Jesus teaches him that once he is clean (in Christ) he needs regular "washings" (living in repentance).
  - c. Peter has to learn how to be served as well as how to serve.
3. **The happy (blessed) example to follow** (12-17)
  - a. It's great to know these things and see the example.
  - b. But Christ is teaching us to keep serving each other (do it!) even when we are tired, hurt, desperate, broken and feeling betrayed, rejected and alone.
  - c. There is no task beneath the Christ follower.

### Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: "Humanly speaking" Jesus was at the low point, facing his final rejections, abandonment, wrongful accusations and an illegal crucifixion. He knew he was about to die and yet he continued to serve those closest with him. In what way does this example challenge you?
2. Based on #1, above: "Divinely speaking" Jesus was facing the hour he had come for. He was about to make good on God's promise to pay for the sins of the world, and to defeat death forever by being raised the third day. He would also sit down at God's right hand because he had finished his work. Jesus would soon be glorified. You certainly aren't divine, but how is your suffering preparing you for heaven?
3. Based on #2, above: The foot washing represents the "daily cleansing" we receive as we live a life of repentance and are washed clean daily through confession (1 John 1:9) and the daily washing of the Word (Ephesians 5:26). How has your prayer life and time in the Word changed your attitude or behavior in the last few weeks?
4. Based on #3, above: Christ showed us that the Lord serves the needs of those around him and there is nothing beneath him. How are you being called to serve the needs of the Christ followers around you who have hurt, betrayed, rejected, denied or abandoned you?