

READ: John 13:1-17

OPEN:

- How was your week? In what ways did you experience God at work in your life?
- Define and discuss what it means "to serve."
- Think of a time when someone served you. What happened & how did this impact you?

BIG IDEA: (*This is where we are going over the next three weeks in our sermon series leading up to Easter.*)

On Jesus' path to the Cross, we honor and remember His demonstration as:

- 1) **Servant – Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet**
- 2) Suffering – Jesus at Gethsemane
- 3) Sovereign – Jesus' Triumphal Entry / Palm Sunday

READ: John 13:1-17, NLT – Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

DIG:

- Discuss this quote: *"The closer you get to the cross, the fewer followers of Jesus you will find."* What do you think this means? How does this apply to you?
- In the passage, Jesus begins to say farewell to those who are close to Him. What was Jesus trying to communicate to the disciples in John 13:1?
- In verse 2, it says that Judas would betray Jesus, and then we see Jesus in verses 3-5 begin to wash His disciples' feet. What does this say about Jesus' character?
- Why does Jesus demonstrate what it means to be a servant to his disciples in these verses using a towel and wash basin?
- In this time in history, washing of feet was reserved for the servant, a lowly place. Jesus, God's Son, humbles Himself and freely serves them. How does this demonstrate the love of Christ to you? What does this teach you?
- How hard would it be for you to serve someone who hurt or betrayed you?
- In verses 6-8, Peter protests that Jesus would try to wash their feet. Why do you think Peter speaks up in these verses?
- Jesus was not only demonstrating a physical washing of their dirty feet, but He was also demonstrating that as God's servant, He must also wash them of the stain and dirt of Sin in their lives. Why is it hard for us to allow Jesus to cleanse us at times?

REFLECT:

- How can we demonstrate a servant's heart this week?
- What areas do you need to allow Jesus to wash and cleanse your life?
- Easter is fast approaching. Using the INVEST + INVITE Card, who do you plan on investing in and inviting to the Easter worship experiences at your campus?