



**Sermon-based reflections connect the week to the weekend!**

*Dig deeper into the talk each week, in a small group or independently. Challenge yourself to see how the message actually makes sense and applies to your everyday life.*

**Message Info:** Motivated by Love, 8/6/23 - In a world where everyone is trying to get ahead and level-up, humility can feel unnatural and contrary. But thankfully, Jesus is an incredible teacher. His captivating sermons and parables simplify heavenly concepts, and his life upheld everything he preached. Today, we're diving into his teaching and example on selfless serving. (*Passages: John 13:1-17, Mark 9:35*)

**Discussion Questions:** Take your time and dig into these questions.

How do we show others love? Is it simply through words? Can we love others without serving them? Is it easy to love everyone, all the time? Is love always convenient? Does it always feel good?

Read John 13:1-17. What stands out to you in this passage? Why?

Washing feet was commonplace in the desert-climate where Jesus and his disciples lived, and normally done by non-Jewish slaves or servants. It's no wonder Peter was appalled that *Jesus* wanted to wash *his* feet. But as with everything Jesus did, there was a deeper meaning to his actions. Do you think Jesus could have said or done something more impactful to teach the disciples about humility? Did Jesus discriminate, or did he wash everyone's feet?

Jesus' willingness to wash the feet of everyone in the room was a beautiful example of humility. He made clear that we are not saved, or sanctified, by His washing. We are saved by faith. Wrestling with sin every day may earn us a foot washing now and again, but we are saved from the moment we believe. Why is it so hard to accept that we are saved by faith? How can we stop holding God to human standards?

At the end of the passage, Jesus says "If you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." There is so much to gain from obeying God's Word. Showing our love for God and others through serving is a rewarding experience that will enrich our lives like nothing else. How can you better serve others?

**Weekly Challenge:** Invite friends and register for "Flip-flops & Friends" on August 27th at Washington Twp Park in Pine Grove!

**COME**  **GROW**  **GO** 