

**John 13:1-5** “It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love. The evening meal was being served...so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.” (NIV)

**John 13:2** “The evening meal was being served...” (NIV)

1. The \_\_\_\_\_

**John 13:12-15** “After he had finished washing their feet, he took his robe, put it back on, and went back to his place at the table. You address me as 'Teacher' and 'Master,' and rightly so. That is what I am. So if I, the Master and Teacher, washed your feet, you must now wash each other's feet. I've laid down a pattern for you. What I've done, you do.” (Message)  
 John 13:1 “Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.” (NIV)

2. The \_\_\_\_\_


**Ecclesiastes 2:4-10** “I tried to find meaning by building huge homes for myself and by planting beautiful vineyards. I also owned great herds and flocks, more than any of the kings who lived in Jerusalem before me. I collected great sums of silver and gold...I hired wonderful singers...I had everything a man could desire! Anything I wanted, I took. I did not restrain myself from any joy.” (NLT)


**Ecclesiastes 2:11** “Then I took a good look at everything I'd done, looked at all the sweat and hard work. But when I looked, I saw nothing but smoke. Smoke and spitting into the wind. There was nothing to any of it. Nothing.” (Message)

- 1-Pattern
- 2-Choice
- 3-Blessing
- Personal
- Others

3. The \_\_\_\_\_

**John 13:17** “Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” (NIV)

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**Finding Your Fit**

**“The Towel”**

**Priming The Pump**

Talk about some of the ways you have served within the church over the years... What was the first thing you ventured to do in a church?

**The Main Point**

Where do your best memories of serving come from?

What triggers those good memories? Was it what you did? or who you served with?

Here at MSF our categories of service include:

**Food Services / Media Resources / Hospitality**

**Equipping Ministries / Outreach / Helps**

Where did you find the most joy serving? Where do you do your best work?

Here's a wild thought... is it possible that you could serve *better* in one particular area if you gave up serving in another one? Or does God want you always doing as much as possible? How could/might that be true?

Below are two incidences where Jesus promised blessing if we did something very specific. **John 13:17** (13:1-20), **Luke 11:27, 28**

*What is at the heart of what Jesus was saying in both cases*

An episode of ***America's Got Talent*** included a young man (singer) who said, (*having made it to the semi finals*) that this was the “first time in his life that he felt like he belonged.”

How does that contrast with what Jesus told Peter after washing his feet? Talk about the extent to which you believe you are blessed if you do according to these two verses. What kind of blessing are we talking about here?

***A NOTE:*** *Let's be clear: our belonging to God, and therefore our feeling like we “fit” and belong, is not the result of some great achievement or performing to a certain level of approval - and certainly not the approval of others. Jesus told Peter he was already clean (accepted/ belonged), and it certainly wasn't because of anything Peter or the others had done to that point (or would do). We are loved by God and we therefore gratefully serve as a response to what He has graciously done for us. We don't serve in order to be accepted or belong. God does however want to reward and bless us when we follow the path He's chosen for us and when we are doing His will.*



**FURTHER READING** *Scripture for Daily Reading*

Day 1 **Numbers 32, 33** Day 2 **Numbers 34**

Day 4 **Numbers 35, 36** Day 5 **Romans 8**

Day 3 **Romans 7**

Day 6 **Psalms 84**