



SECTION 2

Lesson 1

Serve One Another

Unit 2 | Love Thy Neighbor | Grades: 1-5

FIELD MANUAL FOR
QUEST PARENTS

UNIT VERSE: MARK 12:31

“The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

SECTION VERSE: JOHN 15:12-14

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.”



Follow Jesus the leader -
Serve each other

PRAYER

Think about how you can serve in your church. Ask God to guide you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What, in your own words, is the church?
- Who is a servant? What do you think of when you hear that word?
- ★ Why did Jesus wash the disciples’ feet? Was this a strange thing for Him to do? Why?
- ★ Have you ever considered yourself better than someone else? Why?



PARENT DEVOTIONAL

FOLLOW JESUS THE LEADER - SERVE EACH OTHER

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command."

- John 15:12-14

"You Should Do As I Have Done For You" - Jesus

The dusty and dirty conditions of the region necessitated the need for foot-washing. Although the disciples most likely would have been happy to wash Jesus' feet, they could not conceive washing each other's feet. This was because in the society of the time foot-washing was reserved for the lowliest of menial servants. Peers did not wash one another's feet, except very rarely and as a mark of great love. Luke points out (22:24) that they were arguing about who was the greatest of them, so that none was willing to stoop to wash feet. When Jesus moved to wash their feet, they were shocked. His actions serve also as a symbol of spiritual cleansing (vs. 6-9) and a model of Christian humility (vs. 12-17). Through this action Jesus taught the lesson of selfless service that was supremely exemplified by His death on the cross.

The foot-washing was an example, a pattern. Many groups throughout church history have practiced literal foot-washing as a church ordinance. However, present culture in many lands does not call for the need to wash dust from the feet of one's guests. Whereas the Lord's Supper was practiced by the early church, it apparently did not practice foot-washing as an ordinance in church gatherings. This passage emphasizes inner humility, not a physical rite. A Christian widow's practice of "washing the feet of the saints" (I Tim. 5:10) speaks not of her involvement in a church ordinance but of her humble slave-like service to other believers. Not to follow the example of Jesus is to exalt oneself above Him and to live in pride. "No servant is greater than his master" (cf. John 12:26).

Recommended Resource: Manners and Customs of the Bible by J.I. Packer & M.C. Tenney.

Take this time for some introspection. Have you ever, consciously or unconsciously, considered yourself "better" than someone else? Would you gladly clean the toilets in the church building or are your gifts or your "position" above that sort of thing? What was Jesus' perspective on this subject? If we are His body then this is critical information.

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

Galatians 5:13; 6:2
Romans 12:2-3 | James 2:1-12
Philippians 2:1-7