

Unpacking the Preach

Date: 10th October 2021
Sermon Title: Discipleship & Service
Bible Passage: John 13:1-17

Recapping the Preach

Take time to read the passage from a few different translations.

- What stands out to you most from this story?
- Which do you prefer - serving others or having them serve you?
- Are there jobs or ways to serve that you would prefer not to do?
- What is the grossest job you have had to do?

Stu recounted the story of the disciples having their feet washed by Jesus. The task was one which would usually have been performed by a slave but here, the Lord of all creation, bends to serve His disciples. It would have been an awkward moment for the disciples but Jesus uses the opportunity to show them the full extent of his love (13:1) and teach them (13:12-17).

- How would you describe real love? How is it shown here, through humility and service?
- What do you think is the significance of what 'Jesus knew' in verse 1-3?
- What was the clear point that Jesus was making by washing His disciples feet (vs.12-17)?

Stu went on to highlight that Jesus' words (vs.14-15) leave us without excuse in regards to serving others and that the gospel (the fact that God has served us in Christ) should compel us to serve others.

- What excuses do you make to avoid serving others?
- Do you think it is true when people say that in church 80% of people watch while 20% do all the work? How can this be changed?
- Do you think there are moments when it would be appropriate to say 'no' to serving others?
- Do you think it is more important to serve in the church or on our frontline - check out Galatians 6:10?
- Thinking about all that Jesus has done for us through the cross, with what words would you finish this sentence, 'Our service to others should be....'?

Stu went on to say that the invitation to serve others is a gift from God because it results in great joy.

- Share testimony of moments when you have served others and it has resulted in joy / blessing?
- What other blessings do we receive when we serve others?

Response

- Is there anything from the preach and passage that you will be taking away to reflect on or work on?
- Who is the one person you can serve today?
- Whose service do you need to accept the next time he / she offers?

Prayer pointers

- Take time to share prayer requests and pray for one another.
- Pray that God would show you where He is calling you to serve - on your frontline and in church.
- Ask God to reveal the gifts He has given you to serve others and build up the body of Christ.

Additional resources:

If you need some additional resources the below websites are useful:

- <https://www.gotquestions.org>
- <https://enduringword.com>
- <https://www.biblica.com>
- <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/>