

Everyday FAITH Family Page

H₂Oh!

Law/Gospel

I fail to recognize the depth of my sin and think I can cleanse myself. **Because of His love for me, Jesus is willing to stoop down and take on the role of a servant, washing away that which is most disgusting and perverse in me.**

Bible Words

Serve the LORD with gladness!
Psalm 100:2

Servant for Our Sake

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:5–11

Servant H₂Oh! Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

John 13:1–17

Walking dusty roads in Bible times made people's feet very dirty. Hosts usually supplied a servant to wash the feet of their guests, but Jesus did this task at the Passover meal on Thursday evening of Holy Week. With love, Jesus took off His outer garments, tied a towel around His waist, poured water into a basin, and washed filthy feet (vv. 1–4).

Peter refused to participate. Jesus said if He did not wash him, Peter would have "no share" with Him (v. 8). Peter acquiesced, asking Jesus to wash all of him, feet, hands, and head.

Only God can wash away our sin. We cannot make ourselves clean. Jesus came to wash away our sin. He accomplished this through His death on the cross and resurrection from the dead. He delivers these benefits through His Word and the waters of Holy Baptism.

Jesus knew Judas would betray Him, and all the others would deny and abandon Him, but He still washed their feet, showing His love for all sinners. Even so, Jesus said not all of His disciples were clean (vv. 10–11). Only by faith, a gift from God, do we receive the benefits Christ won on Good Friday, forgiveness of sin and eternal life.

Feetwashing Today

Jesus willingly took on the very form of a slave and performed an act of humble obedience. As His followers, no act of loving service is beneath us. Whether changing a baby's diaper, mowing the lawn, or helping a parent or friend with dirty job, we serve Jesus and our neighbor in Christ's name.

Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for giving us faith in Christ, our Savior. Keep us in this one true faith unto life everlasting. In His name we pray. Amen.

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