



Sermon Notes

Topic: Choosing Discipleship
– His Way

Bible Passage: John 13:12-17

Preacher: Ps Sam Toms

Date: 18th May 2025

Study Guide Overview

In a world chasing comfort, achievement, and the “good life,” Jesus flips the script by showing us that real purpose is not found in platform or position, but in servanthood. John 13 reveals that Jesus—fully aware of His identity—stooped to wash His disciples’ feet, modelling a life of humility and love. His act wasn’t symbolic; it was a **blueprint for Kingdom living**. True purpose begins with knowing who we are in Christ and flows into building others up through simple, often unseen acts of service. If we want to follow Jesus, we must learn from *what He did*, not just what He said. We’re not called to comfort in community but to **engagement with our calling**—to embody love that is willing to kneel. Our culture celebrates success; Jesus celebrates servanthood. Let’s not just admire His example—
let’s follow it.



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Life Group Study Guide: “Purpose at the Feet of Others”

Opening Icebreaker

- Share about someone in your life who made a lasting impact—not because of their status, but because of how they served you.

Read Together: John 13:1–17

1. Identity and Purpose

Read John 13:3.

“Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power... so he got up... and began to wash their feet.”

Discussion Questions:

- What does this verse reveal about the link between identity and action?
- How does knowing who we are in Christ free us to serve others?
- In what ways do you see people today trying to “build” their identity through achievement?

Personal Reflection:

Have I been seeking validation through what I *do*, instead of living from who I *am* in Christ?



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2. Purpose Is Relational, Not Positional

Read John 13:4–5 and Mark 10:45.

Discussion Questions:

- What stands out to you about Jesus’ act of washing His disciples’ feet?
- Jesus even washed Judas’ feet. What does this teach us about serving those who may hurt or reject us?
- What does a "Kingdom view of greatness" look like in practice?

Challenge Prompt:

Can you think of a time you loved or served someone who didn’t deserve it?
What happened?

3. Purpose in the Mundane

Read John 13:12–17 and Galatians 5:13.

Discussion Questions:

- Why do we often overlook the small, hidden acts of service?
- How might God be using mundane, everyday moments to fulfill His purpose in and through your life?
- What are some practical ways you can “wash feet” in your week ahead?

Try This Week:

Pick 3 people to intentionally serve—at home, at work, or in your community.
Do something small but meaningful.



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4. Heart Check: Prominence or Purpose?

Read John 13:17 again.

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think Jesus says, “you will be blessed if you do these things”?
- What’s the difference between doing good things *for recognition* and doing them *from love*?
- How do we resist the pressure to chase performance-based purpose?

Reflection:

Is my life currently more focused on being successful or being faithful?
