**BETTER TOGETHER** in 2022

October 2, 2022

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**The Jesus Way**

**The Way of the Towel**

John 13:1-17



*Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.* *During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him,**Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God,**rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist.**Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*

John 13:1-5

The way of the towel is **loving** others.

*Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.*

*John 13:1*

The way of the towel is loving the “**unlovable**.”

*During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him*

*John 13:2*

The way of the towel **sets aside** position, privilege, and rights for the sake of the other.

*Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God…*

*John 13:3*

The way of the towel **serves others**.

*(He) rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist.**Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*

*John 13:4-5*

*He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, do you wash my feet?”* *Jesus answered him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.”* *Peter said to him, “You shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no share with me.”**Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”* *Jesus said to him, “The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.”* *For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”*

We do not **deserve** God’s love, but His love makes us worthy.

*He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, do you wash*

*my feet?” Jesus answered him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.”*

*John 13:6-7*

Three theological truths:

*Peter said to him, “You shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no share with me.” Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”**Jesus said to him, “The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean.*

*John 13:8-10*

1. Christ and Christ alone **saves.**

*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

*John 14:6*

1. Salvation is **permanently** cleansing.

*There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

*Romans 8:1*

1. Sin **hinders** our relationship with God.

*If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.*

*1 John 1:6*

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*When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am.* *If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.* *For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.* *Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.* *If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.*

The way of the towel is **humility**.

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.*

*Philippians 2:6*

The way of the towel is **identity**.

*So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.*

*Ephesians 2:19*

The way of the towel is **obedience**.

*So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*

*James 2:17*

*His master said to him ‘Well done good and faithful servant.’*

*Matthew 25:23*

The way of the towel is a **blessing**.

Blessed – condition or state of being in God’s favor.

The way of the towel is a **blessing** to others.

Living the Jesus Way – the Way of the Towel – is a lifestyle of service, humility, and love.