

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why did Jesus wash the disciples' feet?
2. How can a proper view of ourselves help us toward having the characteristic or virtue of humility?
3. Can a person be humble without feeling inferior and still have proper self esteem?
4. If this is the only way to future greatness, why then do not more people humble themselves?
5. Contrast the life and actions of a proud person with a humble person.
6. Can a person be proud of their humility?

SUMMARY:

Humility—a coveted virtue—found expression in the life of Christ, which He demonstrated for our benefit. While we may often pray for humility, we so often find ourselves woefully lacking. Why, may we ask, is it so difficult to acquire, no matter how often we pray for it? The answer may be found in the words of the Savior when He said, “Learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly.”

Have you ever thought of learning to be meek, or humble? He, being humble, can surely teach us how to become as He was. His Word teaches us that humility is a fruit of the Spirit; it therefore follows that as we are more fully possessed by the Holy Spirit, we can be more humble, more like Jesus, our example. Shall we therefore not more fully yield to the Spirit's control?

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

April 17, 2005

Second Quarter

CHRIST DEMONSTRATES HUMILITY

LESSON TEXT: John 13:1-17

LESSON SETTING: In the upper room at Jerusalem.

TIME: Approximately 33 A. D.

I. PATTERN OF HUMILITY. John 13:1-11

- A. Took On Human Flesh. Romans 8:3; John 1:14; Galatians 4:4
- B. Assumed Servant's Role. Luke 9:58; Philippians 2:7
- C. Was Obedient Unto Death. Philippians 2:8

II. PRINCIPLE OF HUMILITY. John 13:12-14

- A. God Dwells with the Humble. Isaiah 57:15
- B. God Honors Humility. Matthew 18:4
- C. Basic Requirement for Man. Micah 6:8
- D. Promise to the Humble. 1 Peter 5:5

III. PRECEPT OF HUMILITY. John 13:15-17

- A. Rule of Conduct Toward Man. Luke 14:10
- B. Rule of Conduct Toward God. James 4:10; 1 Peter 5:5-6

GOLDEN TEXT: I HAVE GIVEN YOU AN EXAMPLE, THAT YE SHOULD DO AS I HAVE DONE TO YOU. John 13:15

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: John 13:18-35

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 2 Samuel 15:1-10; Psalm 4:15-13;
Matthew 26:20-29;
Mark 14:10-11, 18-21;
Luke 22:21-23

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ, The Son of God

TOPIC: CHRIST ANNOUNCES HIS BETRAYAL

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus knew long before it happened that He would be betrayed. This had even been prophesied, (Psalm 41:5-13 and Zechariah 11:12, 13) including the price that would be paid. No wonder He was heavy of heart, full well knowing that one who had fellowshiped with Him would be the guilty one.

Judas was chosen as one of the twelve. He had been empowered by the Spirit. (Matthew 10:1-4) He had walked with Jesus. He was present when Jesus prepared for the Last Supper. The indication is that he may have partaken before he went out.

How many today enjoy going to church and having fellowship with Christians? How many even have their names on church membership rolls? Yet, when the time comes to stand fast for Jesus, to separate from the world and to renounce earthly gain, the things of this life seem more important and a choice is made in their favor instead of in favor the Lord Jesus. No wonder the Bible says covetousness is idolatry! May we be more like the eleven who forsook all for Jesus' sake so that we might be accounted worthy to receive the crown of life.

CENTRAL TRUTH: It is a fearful thing to turn one's back on the Savior.

GOLDEN TEXT: WOE TO THAT MAN BY WHOM THE SON OF MAN IS BETRAYED. Mark 14:21

When Jesus spoke these words they were intended specifically for Judas Iscariot who then betrayed Jesus. It was indeed a terrible thing and his fate was even more terrible.

We look at Judas with condemning views and thoughts, and yet there are many people today who are doing the same thing. Many have the opportunity to follow Jesus, having the way of salvation presented to them over and over again. He wants to come into their lives, but the riches and pleasures of this life are more alluring. They are not only rejecting Him but actually betraying Him.

Have you given your life to Jesus or are you "thirty pieces of silver" of more value to you?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 18 - 24

- M. Betrayal Committed. Genesis 37:23-36
- T. Betrayal Foreshadowed. 2 Samuel 15:1-12
- W. Betrayal Prophesied. Psalm 4:15-13
- T. Betrayal Planned. Matthew 26:1-16
- F. Betrayal Revealed. John 13:18-35
- S. Betrayal Consummated. Luke 22:47-53
- S. Betrayal Doomed. Acts 1:15-20