

Holy Wednesday



After Jesus had washed the disciple's feet, he put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord – and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.' JOHN 13:12-15

WASHING FEET

Now why was washing feet such a big deal? Well, at the time when the disciples lived, there weren't any cars, bikes or buses. People walked everywhere. It was hot, so they walked in sandals.

Since there were no cars, bikes or buses, they also used animals to carry things around. There were a lot of donkeys and horses and other animals walking the street making a mess. Everyone's feet were usually sandy, muddy, and disgustingly dirty. Foot washing was a job for the lowest servant in the household. It was the worst job that you could have.

But Jesus, as the last thing that he did before his death and resurrection, took a bowl of water and a towel and washed his disciples' feet.

Some Christians wash one another's feet during church services on Maundy Thursday. This is a reminder to serve one another through the year, even if it means doing humble, boring jobs.

Gather a basin and towel. Show your love for each other and your willingness to follow Jesus as servants and wash each other's feet. Make it a fun time – you may have ticklish feet!

QUESTIONS

1. How did it feel having someone else wash your feet?
2. Did you enjoy washing other people's feet? I'm sure your feet weren't very dirty; what do you think it would be like to wash very dirty feet?
3. What are some other things that you could do to help others?
4. What are some jobs that help other people that most people don't want to do?

