

Discussion Questions & Quotes For February 11 thru 17, 2024

Some Quotes to Grab Our Attention

—“If you know these things (all that the Lord has done for you), you will be blessed (experience authentic joy & fulfillment) if you follow His example (fully trust in the Lord with all your heart)!” —**John 13:17**

—“Unwashed feet is a picture of a believer trying to walk with the Lord, study the Word, pray, or serve Him while that person has known sin in his life.” —**Jodi Hooper**

—“So, Jesus’ act of washing the disciples’ feet illustrated their spiritual cleansing. Jesus is the One who forgives. Peter and the rest had experienced the full cleansing of salvation and did not need to be bathed again in the spiritual sense. Salvation is a one-time act of justification by faith. What follows is the lifelong process of sanctification: a daily washing away of the stain of sin. As we walk through the world, some of the world’s spiritual filth will cling to us, and that needs to be washed away—forgiven by Christ (see 1 John 1:9). Peter and the other disciples—all except Judas, who never belonged to Christ—needed only this minor cleansing.” —**from GotQuestions.org**

—“I suspect that Judas looked at Jesus with great disdain while He was washing his feet. This act of humility and service was not the act of the great political leader that Judas and most other Jews wanted. Judas saw no need for a humble Savior to save him from his sins.” —**selected**

—“Following Christ’s example in John 13 requires us to recognize the cultural hierarchy in modern social settings and place ourselves on the bottom rung, through our actions and through our posture.”

—Jesus Film Project

—“A person who is not concerned about having his present sins cleansed has good reason to doubt that his past sin has been forgiven. A person who has no desire to come to the Lord for continued cleansing has reason to doubt that he ever came to the Lord to receive salvation.”

—**John MacArthur**

—“It does not spoil your happiness to confess your sin. The unhappiness is in not making the confession. When we deal seriously with our sin, God will deal gently with us.” —**Charles Spurgeon**

—Some Questions for Personal Reflection & Discussion—

—Please acquaint yourself with John 13 by reading it carefully, observing the details provided by what John wrote. These questions are designed to help each of us understand the personal lessons & applications that relate to our lives.

—**1}** *Please notice in this passage that Jesus was not selective in His expression of love toward His disciples. He washed Judas’ feet even though He knew what Judas was planning to do. How can we express love to someone like Judas?*

—**2}** Jesus demonstrated amazing humility when He stooped down to wash His disciples’ feet. Can we know whether we are truly being humble or not? What is the essence of true biblical humility? What would you say is the relationship between love & humility?

—**3}** *We can’t determine this with complete certainty, but what thoughts do you have about why Peter resisted Jesus’ initial attempt to wash his feet? It’s evident that Peter didn’t understand what Jesus was doing and what lessons He wanted Peter to learn. Why is it necessary for us to realize that the forgiveness we receive from trusting in Jesus’ sacrifice as our Substitute cleanses & forgives us from our sins? Also, as a very important follow-up to that truth, why is it essential for us to recognize that we should regularly confess our sins (admit we fall short) in order to maintain a close relationship with the Lord? Finally, drawing a conclusion to this series of truths, why is it required that we fully grasp that our forgiveness & salvation from sin is a gift of God’s grace and we can’t ever earn it or obtain by our own efforts?*

—**4}** What should a follower of Christ do if he/she has confessed personal sins, but still feels guilty? What steps should we take?

—**5}** *Based on what you’ve seen in John 13, ask yourself three questions: (1) Do I consistently experience the Lord’s undeserved love. Mercy, & grace? If not, it might be beneficial to ask yourself why not? (2) Is it part of my routine to follow Christ’s example of humble service? If it isn’t, try to write down some specific ways that you can start to do this. (3) Do I regularly come to Christ in confession for His cleansing from my sins and from the filth of this corrupted culture? Please realize that, in a spiritual sense, He’s always ready help us let go of the pain and problems related to that sense of guilt we might have! 1 John 1:5–2:2 is a good passage to observe and memorize as a follow-up to this study.*