

# SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“Servanthood: Hope in Helping”

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THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, February 24, 2008

## **Read: John 13: 4-17**

4So he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

6He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet? 7Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." 9"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!" 10Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." 11For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. 12When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. 13"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

## **Questions:**

1. What does servant leadership look like? What are some opposite examples?
2. Why do you think Jesus chose to come to us as a servant leader? What did he accomplish through it?
3. Why is humility such an important Christian virtue?
4. What are ways in which we can cultivate a spirit of humility in our lives? Why is it such a rare characteristic?
5. Wanting to help is not the same as helping. What stops us from serving in areas and places we see obvious need?
6. What motivates us to serve? What are big and small ways in which you can make a difference through serving?
7. How can hope be produced through helping?

**Pray that God would give you a vision for where he wants you to serve and an open heart to go.**