

LIFE IN HIM

Andy Deane · 08/14/2022 · John 13

Today's Scripture shows us who Jesus is behind closed doors, and how we can become people of integrity that genuinely live for God publicly and privately. We'll look at four characteristics of a genuine disciple.

#1 A true disciple: SERVES (4-17)

⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus 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!" ¹⁰ Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not everyone was clean. ¹² When 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. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

- The spiritual message was that there is a difference between a one-time bathing (salvation) and daily washing (confession of sins).
- The ministry message was that Jesus is proving, by example, that all who follow Him are obligated to serve.
- Foot washing is what we do for others to wash away the filth of the world and the dust of defeat/discouragement.

#2 A true disciple: ENDURES (21-27)

²¹ After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "Very truly I tell you, one of you is going to betray me." ²² His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. ²³ One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. ²⁴ Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means." ²⁵ Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷ As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him.

- 11 of 12 apostles responded to Jesus' love and endured, but Judas betrayed Him.
- It breaks God's heart when people reject His salvation.
 - 2 Peter 3:9, He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
- Jesus loves us to the very end, even if we reject Him.
 - Romans 2:4, do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance.
- Endurance doesn't mean you don't have doubts or sin. It means you continue to declare Jesus as your Savior.
 - Revelation 14:12, This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus.

#3 A true disciple: LOVES (33-36)

³³ "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. ³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." ³⁶ Simon Peter asked him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus replied, "Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later."

- The command to love wasn't new, but the extent of the love displayed by Jesus on the cross was new.
- The identifying mark of a disciple is love for others.

#4 A true disciple: SINS (37-38)

³⁷ Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." ³⁸ Then Jesus answered, "Will you really lay down your life for me? Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!"

- Disciples aren't sinless. Our lifelong battle against sin will include both victory and failure. We look to the only perfect one, Jesus Christ, to cover our sins with his shed blood.
- To avoid painful moments of disowning Jesus, we must take ownership in daily moments of seeking Him!
- Overconfidence doesn't prevent sin, humility does.
- Instead of making bold claims about our faith, let us have an awareness of our weakness and plead for help.