

# JOHN

## Chapter 13

### Note from Kathy

*Math was never my forte'. No matter how hard the teacher tried I had trouble understanding until she would say, "Look at these examples." Examples are such help. That is exactly what our Lord did for us. He demonstrated love by his thoughts, words and deeds. Then he instructed believers everywhere to do the same.*

#### Matthew 26:14-15

*"Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests<sup>15</sup> and asked, 'What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?'"*

#### Mark 14:10-11

*"Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them.<sup>11</sup> They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over."*

#### Luke 22:3-5

*"Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve.<sup>4</sup> And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus.<sup>5</sup> They were delighted and agreed to give him money."*



## Observation

1. What is the time setting mentioned in John 13:1?
2. Try to picture the events as John 12 ends and John 13 begins. Jesus and his disciples are seated at the table to share their evening meal. Jesus is well aware that his time with them is drawing to a close. What happens next seems unthinkable. Fill in the chart with the facts you can find concerning Judas Iscariot's actions just prior to the Passover meal of John 13.

Matthew 26:14-15	Mark 14:10-11	Luke 22:1-6

### John 13:13-17

*“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup> Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup> I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. <sup>16</sup> Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup> Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”*

### John 13:18-21

*“I am not referring to all of you; I know those I have chosen. But this is to fulfill this passage of Scripture: ‘He who shared my bread has turned against me.’ <sup>19</sup> I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe that I am who I am. <sup>20</sup> Very truly I tell you, whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me. <sup>21</sup> After he said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, ‘Truly I tell you, one of you is going to betray me.’”*

### John 13:34-35

*“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

3. Peter objected to having Jesus perform such a task that was usually done by the lowest ranking servant.
  - a. What did Peter say to Jesus?
  - b. What did Jesus say to Peter?
4. Jesus reminded them, “You call me Teacher and Lord and rightly so, for that is what I am.” What example was Jesus setting for them in verses 13-17, through his actions and words?
5. By washing their feet what was Jesus trying to help them understand? He told them that they would not fully comprehend it until much later. What spiritual truth was Jesus showing them?
6. Jesus followed every plan and purpose of God, and now, it is the disciple’s turn to pay close attention and follow his example. What are the “things” he is referring to in verses 16-17? What did he say would be the result?
7. According to the prophet Jeremiah, one of the signs of a true prophet of God was his ability to foretell future events with accuracy. Jeremiah 28:9 says, “But the prophet who prophesies peace will be recognized as one truly sent by the LORD only if his prediction comes true.” What did Jesus share with them in John 13:18-21 that would very quickly come to be?
8. The disciples were terribly puzzled by Jesus’ words concerning betrayal. They loved Jesus and could not believe that one of them would turn on him. Read John 13:22-30. What was the sign they were given, and yet, they missed it?
9. “I will be with you only a little longer.” Those must have been some very sad words for the friends of Jesus. He went on to tell them the very same thing he had told the religious leaders in John 8:21, “where I am going, you cannot come.” What was Jesus referencing?
10. According to John 13:34-35, what is the distinguishing mark of a true follower of Christ?
11. Peter declares his allegiance to Jesus, but does he really know his own heart? What did Jesus tell him would happen very, very soon?

12. Fill in the chart with the things John tells us Jesus knew.

Verses	John tells us Jesus knew
John 13:1	
John 13:3	
John 13:3	
John 13:3	
John 13:11	
John 13:18	
John 13:38	

## Application

1. Jesus knew this would be his last Passover celebration. How do you handle the emotions of knowing it is the last time you will enjoy something? Is your attention on yourself and how much you will miss the joy you have experienced, or are you able to follow Jesus' example and humbly serve others?

Think of a time you experienced a "last time event" and share it with your group.

2. Jesus got up from the Passover meal and quietly took off his outer robe and wrapped a towel around his waist, poured a basin of water and began washing the disciple's feet. This type of humble servant-hood was a marvelous example to the disciples. Can you think of some act of kindness or help that you have done lately?

Did you do it with humility and the heart of a servant?

3. How are you teaching the art of humble service to your children or grandchildren?

Do they serve each other?

Jesus said this would be our distinguishing mark as believers, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Jesus did not merely hope they would notice his act of service. When he finished he talked about it; he explained his actions, and he required it of them. What are you requiring of your children?

How might we help our children learn to serve one another with

### 1 Corinthians 12:12

*“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.”*

### Romans 12:4-5

*“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.”*

### John 13:17

*“Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”*

### 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

*“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. <sup>4</sup>The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. <sup>5</sup>We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”*

humility and love? List some ideas you might implement in your home:

- a.
- b.
- c.

4. Is God calling you to humbly serve others? The answer to that is a resounding, yes! What that will be is something you need to discuss with the Lord. Jesus told his disciples, “I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12 then consider your own body for just a moment. All those independent parts must work in harmony for us to feel good and be productive. When one part is not working well the other parts try to help. Have you ever smashed a finger or stubbed a toe? Even a tiny paper cut can get our attention for several days until it is healed. These are relatively small members of our body and yet we go to great lengths to help get them back in working order. All our parts are important. What part of the body of Christ will you humbly serve this week?

5. Serving others need not be something we dread. In John 13:17 Jesus clearly stated that those who obey in this way will be blessed. What are some ways other believers have shown you love?

What are some of the ways you serve others for Jesus?

What are some ways you have felt blessed by serving?

6. Satan came into Judas’ life little by little. As followers of Christ, we must be very careful to guard our hearts and our emotions. Satan has no new tricks. He came to Eve in the garden and now we see him enticing Judas. As a deceiver, he will attempt to deceive us also. Oh my precious friends, do not entertain every thought that comes your way.

Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5. What does the apostle Paul instruct us to do? Write out the steps we can take as followers of Christ that will enable us to avoid falling prey to the evil one.

**John 12:27-28**

*“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour?” No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name! Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.’”*

**John 13:31**

*“When he was gone, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him.’”*

**1 Peter 4:16**

*“However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.”*

- 7. As women our emotions can sometimes be a hindrance to our walk of faith. In Nancy Leigh DeMoss’ book, “The Lies Women Believe,” she reminds the reader to renew the mind and act on truth. What lie or lies have caused you grief in the past?

What truth has helped you be victorious over this lie?

- 8. Even though Jesus was well aware of all Judas was about to do, were you surprised by the way Jesus spoke to Judas? How would you describe the way he spoke to him? What is your takeaway from this example?

- 9. Read John 12:27-28, 13:31 and 1 Peter 4:16. What was the number one motivation for all Jesus did every day?

This is our assignment also. We must never forget this if we are to live as obedient and pleasing followers of Christ.

The best way to do this is to start each day with the Lord; not just talking to him, but hearing from him. The easiest way to do this is open God’s word. What is on your to-do list today?

Is there a question you can ask yourself before each activity you do and before each word you speak that will help you follow Christ’s example?

- 10. What will you take away from your time in John 13?

- 11. Fill in the blanks. I believe God wants me to \_\_\_\_\_ this year, which I will intentionally do by concentrating on \_\_\_\_\_.

a. With my family, I will \_\_\_\_\_.

b. With my neighbors and friends, I will \_\_\_\_\_.

c. With my extended family, I will \_\_\_\_\_.

d. With my church family, I will \_\_\_\_\_.

e. When people think of me, I want them to finish this sentence: She is a woman \_\_\_\_\_.