

Dr. John Johnson  
July 15-16, 2006  
What God Loves To Bless  
John 13:1-17

Pastor begins a mini-series on these special chapters of John which have a lot to say to us about servanthood. Everything in Jesus' life is moving him forwards to the cross, so he is intent on some special conversations with his closest allies, the disciples. Here in John 13, Jesus demonstrates clearly his love towards his disciples, grace towards Judas the betrayer, and obedience to his Father. We are left with a strong illustration of servanthood leading us to be willing to clean up the mess for each other.

But how do we create a culture of servanthood?

1. Come to grips with our identity so that we don't have a problem with the idea of servanthood.
2. Come to grips with our mission so that we continue to do as Jesus did.
3. Come to grips with our rank so that we can reach all with our act of service.
4. Come to grips with the need / opportunity for service around us which is immense.
  - The service of presence
  - The service of availability
  - The service of giving up
  - The service of anonymity
  - The service of receiving

Questions for Discussion:

1. How have you served people in the past or in the present?
2. What was it about the message this weekend that caught your attention?
3. What are possible service opportunities you have thought about but never pursued? If those possibilities were the Holy Spirit's prompting, how do you deal with that?
4. What is one person or one program, inside or outside the church which you could begin to serve? If you are not aware of the programs around you, how would you find out?
5. If you are in a Life Group, how could you serve together in your community, neighborhood, at the church, in a nearby school, or some other way?