

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Jesus stooped to wash feet as a servant. In doing so what character traits of God is he displaying for us? Do you see God this way? As a servant?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) We need cleansing. Read Titus 3:5. Have you been fully washed by the Holy Spirit? Regenerated (brought to life from death)?

b) Read John 13:10. What does Jesus mean when he says that we don't need to wash except our feet? Talk about how this connects to his command that we wash one another's feet (v. 14-15).

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) When Jesus washes the disciples' feet he was giving them a living parable of his own life and death. How does the foot washing point to the way Jesus' lived his entire life? How does it point to the way he will die?

b) Why is it so essential that we see ourselves as fully cleansed by Christ before we seek the cleansing of our "feet" by others?

APPLICATION

a) To be a cleansing ("foot washing") community we must help each other identify sin and then be reconciled to others as needed. Talk about each of these scriptures in light of your small group. How can you live out these one anothers together? Hebrews 3:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:14; James 5:16.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his full cleansing of your soul by the blood of his son, Jesus.
- Confess ways that you have failed to take seriously the command to "wash feet."
- Thank Jesus for his example of foot washing and for his ultimate washing of us on the cross.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and your group into greater honesty and openness so that we can help keep each other clean.