**Sermon: Love One Another. Scripture:** John 13:1-17; 31-35.

Series: Love Where You Live. Date: June 22, 2025

**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 us?

- a) In verse 34 Jesus gives us a "new commandment" love one another as he has loved us. In what ways is this command even more impossible to obey than "love your neighbor as yourself?" In what way does it expose our need for cleansing and forgiveness?
- b) Peter at first refused to let Jesus wash his feet. In what ways might you be refusing the cleansing of Christ, or the cleansing of Christ through the church's "foot washing."

# 2. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Read verses 31-32 again. Jesus is showing us that his self-humbling and foot washing IS his glory; it is his Lordship at work. What does this teach us about the nature of our God?

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

- a) In verse 35 Jesus tells us that our love for each other is the proof of our discipleship and his lordship. In what ways does our love for one another prove that the gospel is true?
- b) Read verses 6-10 again. In what way is Jesus showing the disciples that their relationship with him is one of "clean" (except Judas), but their relationship with one another will need constant attention and "foot washing?" How does this apply to your personal spiritual growth?

#### **APPLICATION**

- a) Why must our outreach into the community begin with "love one another" as the church before we can "love our enemies" outside of the church?
- b) We said that Jesus' example of foot washing teaches us three things: 1) Self-humiliation in service of others IS the glory of God, Christ, and us. 2) Our relationship with one another is no longer based on earthly status. 3) The greatest act of service is to forgive one another.

Which of these stands out to you? Which do you see as an idea that you need to embrace?

# **PRAYER**

- Praise God that his glory and his self-sacrifice are the same thing.
- Confess ways that you have failed to serve and forgive (love) others in the body of Christ.
- •Thank Jesus for cleansing your "whole self" by his blood.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to wash the feet of others while allowing your feet to be washed too.