



*Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.*

- John 13:3-5

**DEVOTIONAL**

Jesus knows who he is. And that is what makes the towel possible.

He does not kneel because he has forgotten his worth. He kneels because he is so secure in the Father's love that he has nothing left to protect. His identity is not on the line. His dignity does not depend on the room's opinion of him. So he can go low.

I wonder what love requires of me when I am tired. When I feel overlooked. When I prioritize being right over being kind.

Foot-washing is not sentimental. Feet are dirty. The work is close, humble, and a little awkward, which is exactly why Peter pulls back. Most of us would, too. But Jesus is showing something here about what community looks like when it is actually working. Status does not rule the room. Love kneels. Love touches what others would rather avoid.

There is a question underneath this whole scene, not just for Peter, but for anyone who has been around church long enough to grow comfortable. Are we receiving Jesus, or are we consuming religion? Are we letting him teach us how to love, or are we using faith to feel a little better about ourselves?

Love asks for more than agreement. It asks for our presence. Our willingness to kneel.

## SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Serve in a hidden way today. Do something helpful that nobody needs to notice.

## CLOSING PRAYER

Jesus, You kneel to love us. Free me from pride and from fear. Make me faithful at the table and in the world. Amen.

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