

The Five (Part 2)

Ingredients needed for Great fellowship

(John 13:1-17)

“Stir in Some Humility”

Introduction: As we are considering over the next several weeks a different type of recipe for “Great fellowship.” In our effort to prepare a *Great fellowship* today, we want to “stir in some humility.”

When people talk about leadership, they don’t use the word “humility” very often. More likely, they describe a leader as strong or focused or ambitious. They would probably say the leader is confident or assertive. “humble” may not ever come up, and if it does, it might not be used as a compliment. But, Jesus is both a model of a perfect leader and He is our greatest example of humility.

On Thursday He met in the Upper Room with His disciples in order to observe Passover. On this evening, Jesus our Savior and Lord would perform one of the grungiest jobs of His time on earth. He would take on the role of a servant and wash the feet of His disciples. He washed His disciples feet for a reason. In doing so, Jesus modeled the next ingredient to create “Great fellowship” – humility.

I. The timing of humility: (vv. 1-3)

1. Notice the word “when” puts things in perspective for us.
 - a. “When” – (v.1) His time had come to leave this world...
 - b. “When” – When all this was happening, (v. 1b)
 - c. “When” – The devil was actively at work (Judas)(v.2)
 - d. “When” - in these last days, Jesus had completely removed Himself from public ministry so He could spend more time pouring into and teaching His disciples.)
 - e. “When” – Luke 22:24 tells us – His disciples were in the midst of a heated debate about which of them was the greatest
 - f. “When” – when He had finished; He didn’t start something and pass it on to someone else –
 - g. “When” – *He loved them to the end...*
- The timing of humility is, that it starts with a love for others...

II. The type of humility: (vv. 4-11)

As if it was unnoticed at first,...

A. There was no announcement – *He just did it!*

Humility that calls attention to itself immediately goes from humility to pride!

B. There was only authenticity in His humility–

1. Foot-washing was generally performed by the lowliest servant in the household (Luke 7:44). This was common knowledge.
2. Sometimes guests were offered water and vessels for washing their own feet (Judg 19:21).

Humility authentically demonstrated is a much stronger message than humility announced. (Mk 10:45)

The disciples may have been surprised by the Jesus acts of humility, but if so, it was because they “were” familiar with His position among them.

III. The teaching of humility: (v.12)

What a penetrating question Jesus asks. There are three key statements by Jesus that bring this lesson of humility home to the disciples...

A. “You don’t get it yet, but you will.” (v. 7)

Jesus was far more interested in scouring the pride from their hearts than He was washing dirt from their feet but, He need to get their attention to deliver the point). But...

B. “If you won’t receive it, you won’t give it.” (v. 8)

How many of us are like Peter here? We’re okay to give, but, we don’t want to receive?

1. Peter resisted the Lord’s service –
 2. Peter’s response was not an act of humility, it was a display of pride resisting the help he needed!
 3. Peter’s realization – (vv9-10) (1 Jn. 1:9)
- C. “If you’re going to call Me Lord, then learn from Me” (vv. 12-14) Jesus set the standard by which everyone of His servant is to live their lives.

IV. The tracing of humility: (vv. 13-17) It all comes back to...

A. Jesus sets the example. (Read v.15) (Mark 10:42-44)

B. Jesus gives an exhortation In (vv. 14-17) Jesus makes clear humility among His disciples is to be practiced liked Jesus (Phil. 2:3-11; Heb. 2:17-18)!

Conclusion: As we continue to add to the ingredients that will make for great fellowship... Today we “stir in some humility” that looks like Jesus. **Would you commit today** to be one who will follow Jesus example and honor His exhortation? “That what He has done for us, may we do for each other and for others.”