**Titus Women’s Discipleship Summit**

**40 Days of Devotions**

***“Abide in Me and I in You ... the Key John 15:4*.”**

Day 37 (Maundy Thursday)

*“‘No,’ Peter protested, ‘you will never ever wash my feet!’ Jesus replied, ‘Unless I wash you, you won’t belong to me.’”* ***9****Simon Peter exclaimed, ‘Then wash my hands and head as well, Lord, not just my feet!’*

***10****Jesus replied, ‘A person who has bathed all over does not need to wash, except for the feet, to be entirely clean. And you disciples are clean, but not all of you.’”* John 13:8-10 (NLT) Read John 13:1-17

Two little boys, summertime, bare feet, and living on a farm, equals two little boys with very dirty and stinky feet. Most of the time those little boys would require soaking in a tub to get the dirt off them, and even then, it wasn’t a guarantee that their feet would look clean.

It was common and expected that a servant would have washed the feet of Jesus and His disciples, upon entering the house where they would eat the Passover meal. It was customary that people would bathe completely at their homes, before going out to a meal, therefore only needing their feet washed before eating. Foot washing was a common custom because walking in sandals on dry, dusty, dirt roads used by both people and animals would make feet pretty dirty.

When Jesus and the disciples went to the Upper room, there was no servant to perform the “normal” foot washing before eating their meal. After already sitting down, Jesus stands up and begins the process of washing the disciple’s feet. I’m guessing they were speechless, after all Jesus was the Messiah, not a lowly servant. Peter was the one who protested, telling Jesus that He would never wash his feet, “*Jesus replied, ‘Unless I wash you, you won’t belong to me.’”* After hearing this, Peter then wanted an entire bath. Jesus said in verse ten, “*A person who has bathed all over does not need to wash, except for the feet, to be entirely clean. And you disciples are clean.”* Already bathed is when you first asked Jesus to be your Savior. Washing only your dirty feet would be the same as asking for forgiveness of any sin, after your initial bath.

Why was this important on the night before Jesus was crucified? Jesus spent the last hours of His life with His disciples, showering them with His love, reassurance, and telling them, this is the key, *“I am the Vine and you are the branches”*,**1** stay attached to me. My Father will send you the Holy Spirit, He will never leave you, and He will tell you all you need to know.**2** Sin, whether in your life, or mine, it will destroy your relationship with Jesus, just like it would have for the disciples.

Do you need Jesus to wash your feet?

Do you sometimes have difficulty finding the right words to pray, I know I do? Perhaps you will find these Psalms helpful praying what’s on your heart back to God.

Prayer:

“*Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight.* ***12****Restore to me the joy of your salvation and make me willing to obey you.* ***3***

*I love you, Lord; you are my strength. The Lord is (you are) my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is (you are) my rock, in whom I find protection. He is (You are) my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety.* ***4***

*I will exalt you, my God and King, and praise your name forever and ever.* *I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever.* *Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure his greatness.”****5***

*In Jesus Name, Amen*

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(parenthesis) added to personalize it.

All scripture is from the NLT

**1** John 15:5, read 1-17

**2** John 14:16, 26, read 15-30

**3** Psalm 51:1-4, and 12

**4** Psalm 18:1-2

**5** Psalm 145:1-3