God on His Knees

When Jesus washed the disciples’ feet, and commanded us to do likewise, He was not instituting a third ordinance in addition to baptism and the Lord’s Supper. He was teaching us how to live the Christian life.

**1. Submit to Cleansing by Jesus**

A. *Initial* cleansing at salvation

B. *Continual* cleansing throughout life

**2. Imitate the humility of Jesus**

Jesus’ humility is measured by—

A. The *height* from which He came

Psalm 113:5-6; Isaiah 57:15

B. The *depths* to which He went

Mark 10:42-45

**3. Test your service by the love of Jesus**

A. Love does not *show off*

B. Love does not *stop*

**Final Application**

One great secret of the Christian life is getting close enough to Jesus to

see & experience

His cleansing, humility, and love.

**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. How did the Lord speak to you through the message? Did He put His finger on any habits or attitudes that you need to change? Did He encourage you regarding some difficulty, move you to undertake some new challenge, or open your heart to some truth you hadn’t seen before?

2. What parallels do you see between John 13:1-17 and Philippians 2:1-11?

3. How does John 13:1-17 relate to the requirements for a widow in the early church to receive regular support from the church (1 Timothy 5:9-10).

4. How long after you become unclean does it take you to apply the remedy of 1 John 1:9?

5. Whom do you have difficulty serving? When are you apt to give up serving and loving someone? How can you serve others from a position of strength, as Jesus did, rather than becoming a weak doormat or a pushover?

*A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none.*

*A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.*

Martin Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian*