

### Judgment by Jesus' Words

**44** Jesus said in a loud voice, "Whoever believes in me believes not only in me but also in him who sent me. **45** Whoever sees me sees also him who sent me. **46** I have come into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. **47** If people hear my message and do not obey it, I will not judge them. I came, not to judge the world, but to save it. **48** Those who reject me and do not accept my message have one who will judge them. The words I have spoken will be their judge on the last day! **49** This is true, because I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has commanded me what I must say and speak. **50** And I know that his command brings eternal life. What I say, then, is what the Father has told me to say."

### Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

**13** <sup>1</sup> It was now the day before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. He had always loved those in the world who were his own, and he loved them to the very end.

**2** Jesus and his disciples were at supper. The Devil had already put into the heart of Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, the thought of betraying Jesus. **3** Jesus knew that the Father had given him complete power; he knew that he had come from God and was going to God. **4** So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. **5** Then he poured some water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet

and dry them with the towel around his waist. **6** He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Are you going to wash my feet, Lord?"

**7** Jesus answered him, "You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later."

**8** Peter declared, "Never at any time will you wash my feet!"

"If I do not wash your feet," Jesus answered, "you will no longer be my disciple."

**9** Simon Peter answered, "Lord, do not wash only my feet, then! Wash my hands and head, too!"

**10** Jesus said, "Those who have taken a bath are completely clean and do not have to wash themselves, except for their feet. All of you are clean—all except one." (**11** Jesus already knew who was going to betray him; that is why he said, "All of you, except one, are clean.")

**12** After Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table. "Do you understand what I have just done to you?" he asked. **13** "You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am.

**14** I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. **15** I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you. **16** I am telling you the truth: no slaves are greater than their master, and no messengers are greater than the one who sent them. **17** Now that you know this truth, how happy you will be if you put it into practice!

**18** "I am not talking about all of you; I know those I have chosen. But the scripture must come true that says, 'The man who shared my food



## Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet



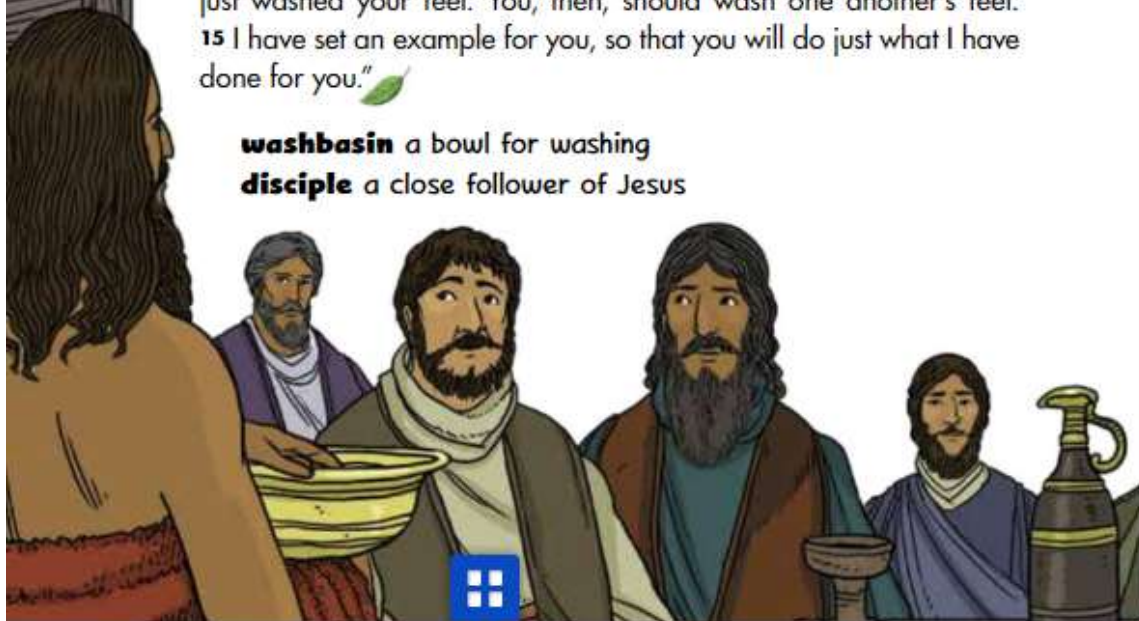
John 13:3-5, 14-15 (For the full story, read John 13:1-17.)

**3** Jesus knew that the Father had given him complete power; he knew that he had come from God and was going to God. **4** So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. **5** Then he poured some water into a **washbasin** and began to wash the **disciples'** feet and dry them with the towel around his waist.

**14** [Jesus said to the disciples] "I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. **15** I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you."

**washbasin** a bowl for washing

**disciple** a close follower of Jesus



## Understand It!

When Jesus lived, people wore sandals and walked on dirt roads. So their feet got very dirty. When people arrived as guests in someone's home, servants would wash their feet. In this Bible story from John, Jesus did a servant's work at the Last Supper. He washed and dried his disciples' feet. Then he told them to do the same for others.

Jesus didn't mean that we should actually wash other people's feet. He meant that we should serve, or help, other people. We should not just expect others to serve us. When we serve others, we show we love them. We show that we love Jesus who lives in everyone. Jesus wants you to help without being asked. He wants you to serve your family and friends who need your help. Can you be a servant like Jesus?

On Holy Thursday, we remember what Jesus did in a ceremony called "The Washing of the Feet." Our parish priests, the bishops, and even the Pope wash feet on that day, as a sign of loving service to others.

John 13  
STORY

## Live It!

Follow Jesus' command to serve others by making service coupons. On one side of a slip of paper, write "Service Coupon." On the other side, write things that you are willing to do for family members. For example, you might write "Good for two room cleanings," or "Good for helping with yard work." Surprise your family. Hand out your coupons and show your love in action.

## Tell It!



1



2



3

I HAVE SET AN EXAMPLE FOR YOU.

Using the pictures above, retell this story in your own words.

