



Sermon Discussion Questions

Re:Gift: How will you respond?

INTRODUCE IT

"In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (Act 20:35 ESV)

This is our theme verse for this series. Jesus is quoted in the book of Acts with these words of the benefit of responding to the His Gift by giving to others. What does that look like? How do we do that in our day and time? What are the different ways we can give ourselves to others? What has to change practically and in our hearts to make that happen? These are the things will explore throughout this series.

OK. It's time to come clean. You know you've done it. We've all done it. What is the most unusual item you have ever received as a gift that you then re-gifted to someone else? Did the person receiving it ever realize that you had re-gifted to them?

STUDY THE PASSAGE

Read John 13: 3-17

Why do you think this has stood out as one of the most remarkable acts of Jesus ever recorded?

Why do you think Jesus washes his disciples' feet rather than just giving them a sermon on love?

What tasks at home, at work or in church would be equivalent to foot-washing?

Peter was embarrassed at having Jesus wash his feet. Why do you think he felt this way?

How do you do at receiving mundane service from others? What makes it easy or hard for you? How does receiving service from others help cultivate a spirit of humility in our lives?

How do you think Jesus felt as he washed Judas's feet?

How do you think Judas felt?

Use it

In his book, Celebration of Discipline, Richard Foster writes, "More than any other single way the grace of humility is worked into our lives through the Discipline of service...Nothing disciplines the inordinate desires of the flesh like service, and nothing transforms the desires of the flesh like serving in hiddenness. The flesh whines against service but screams against hidden service. It strains and pulls for honor and recognition."

At the Huntersville service, Pastor Mike asked us to consider a few questions below:

How is God calling you to give time to serve in an unknown, hidden manner that gives you secret joy?

... to give time to serve God by serving in your church?

... to measurably, regularly give time to serve the needs of the people closest to you - family or friends?

... to serve the needs of the poor and the oppressed?

Talk about these with your group. How can you help each other in learning to serve in a way that gives away the gift we have been given from God?