

## THE MAKING OF A "HISTORY MAKER III"

### **"HUMBLE SERVANTS"**

July 29, 2007

#### Opening Discussion:

Have you ever invited someone to church, then hoped some things "wouldn't happen"? Today, Rich will share a time when he invited a girl friend for the very first time to his church, only to find that they were going to be "washing feet". Have you ever been involved in a foot washing service? Is it something we should be doing, or is there a deeper message involved?

**\*John 13:1-8, 12-17** - *"1 It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love. 2 The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. 3 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; 4 so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and **began to wash his disciples' feet**, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8 "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." .... "12 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. 13 "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 **I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.** 16 I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 **Now that you know these things, you will be blessed IF you do them.**"*

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**\*Mt 23:11-12** - *"11 The **greatest among you will be your SERVANT.** 12 For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever **HUMBLES himself will be exalted.**"*

#### **\*CHARACTERISTICS OF SERVING AS MODELED BY JESUS...**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Discussion:** Isn't there a need for "organized serving"? Then what's the meaning behind this point?

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Discussion:** Rich said that, "if you have to have a lot of people involved before you'll serve, then you'll probably not be a servant. What is meant by this? How did the disciples illustrate this point?"

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Discussion:**

1. Once again, how did the disciples illustrate this point?
2. For those who only serve when others will know and when they will be recognized, what did Jesus say about them in Mt 6?

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
2 "The evening meal was being served," ... 4 "so he **got up from the meal**..."

**\*Discussion:**

1. It's true that real serving takes place when it's most inconvenient. How did Jesus illustrate this point?
2. Can you give an example of when you served and it was really inconvenient?

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
*Phil 2:3-4 "3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but **in humility consider others better than yourselves**. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the **interests of others**."*

**\*Discussion:**

1. Why is this point so difficult?
2. How did the story of the Down Syndrome boy truly illustrate how we should be?

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, **are you going to wash my feet?**" ...  
8 "No," said Peter, "**you shall never wash my feet.**"

**\*Discussion:**

1. Why did Peter say this to Jesus?
2. What is the other lesson here besides serving, and how did Jesus illustrate it?

7. \_\_\_\_\_  
2 "... the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to **betray Jesus**"

**\*Discussion:** Why is this such a powerful, yet difficult point?

8. \_\_\_\_\_  
"12 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "**Do you understand what I have done for you?**" he asked them. 13 "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 I have set you **an example that you should do as I have done for you**. 16 I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

**\*Discussion:** More than any other reason, why should we want to be a servant?

9. \_\_\_\_\_  
17 **Now that you know these things, you will be blessed IF you do them.**"

**\*Discussion:** Brings great joy! Okay, HOW?