

## The Terrible Towel

**John 13:1-17 (TPT)** Jesus knew that the night before Passover would be his last night on earth before leaving this world to return to the Father's side. All throughout his time with his disciples, Jesus had demonstrated a deep and tender love for them. And now he longed to show them the full measure of his love. <sup>2</sup> Before their evening meal had begun, the accuser had already deeply embedded betrayal into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. <sup>3</sup> Now Jesus was fully aware that the Father had placed all things under his control, for he had come from God and was about to go back to be with him. <sup>4</sup> So he got up from the meal and took off his outer robe, and took a towel and wrapped it around his waist. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' dirty feet and dry them with his towel. <sup>6</sup> But when Jesus got to Simon Peter, he objected and said, "I can't let you wash my dirty feet—you're my Lord!" <sup>7</sup> Jesus replied, "You don't understand yet the meaning of what I'm doing, but soon it will be clear to you." <sup>8</sup> Peter looked at Jesus and said, "You'll never wash my dirty feet—never!" "But Peter, if you don't allow me to wash your feet," Jesus responded, "then you will not be able to share life with me." <sup>9</sup> So Peter said, "Lord, in that case, don't just wash my feet, wash my hands and my head too!" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "You are already clean. You've been washed completely and you just need your feet to be cleansed—but that can't be said of all of you." For Jesus knew which one was about to betray him, <sup>11</sup> and that's why he told them that not all of them were clean. <sup>12</sup> After washing their feet, he put his robe on and returned to his place at the table. "Do you understand what I just did?" Jesus said. <sup>13</sup> "You've called me your teacher and lord, and you're right, for that's who I am. <sup>14-15</sup> So if I'm your teacher and lord and have just washed your dirty feet, then you should follow the example that I've set for you and wash one another's dirty feet. Now do for each other what I have just done for you.

## The Terrible Towel

...continued

---

<sup>16</sup> I speak to you timeless truth: a servant is not superior to his master, and an apostle is never greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup> So now put into practice what I have done for you, and you will experience a life of happiness enriched with untold blessings!"

**Philippians 2:3-11 (TPT)** Be free from pride-filled opinions, for they will only harm your cherished unity. Don't allow self-promotion to hide in your hearts, but in authentic humility put others first and view others as more important than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Abandon every display of selfishness. Possess a greater concern for what matters to others instead of your own interests. <sup>5</sup> And consider the example that Jesus, the Anointed One, has set before us. Let his mindset become your motivation. <sup>6</sup> He existed in the form of God, yet he gave no thought to seizing equality with God as his supreme prize. <sup>7</sup> Instead he emptied himself of his outward glory by reducing himself to the form of a lowly servant. He became human! <sup>8</sup> He humbled himself and became vulnerable, choosing to be revealed as a man and was obedient. He was a perfect example, even in his death—a criminal's death by crucifixion! <sup>9</sup> Because of that obedience, God exalted him and multiplied his greatness! He has now been given the greatest of all names! <sup>10</sup> The authority of the name of Jesus causes every knee to bow in reverence! Everything and everyone will one day submit to this name—in the heavenly realm, in the earthly realm, and in the demonic realm. <sup>11</sup> And every tongue will proclaim in every language: "Jesus Christ is Lord Yahweh," bringing glory and honor to God, his Father!

✓ Take up the **towel**, set down the **sword**.

✓ Like **Mo** and **Joe**, we are lifted when **we get low**.

The Terrible Towel

...continued

---

**James 4:6 (NIV)** But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

✓ Your **breakdown** leads to your **breakthrough**.

✓ Be **poised** for **possibility**.