

“Preparing for Easter”

John 13:1-17

Tuesday Bible Lunch

March 12, 2024

Introduction: I do not know if you are preparing for Easter or not. There are only two more Tuesdays before Easter. Three weeks from today will be the Tuesday after Easter.

1. Some people are making preparations for trips to be with family.
2. Some are thinking about the Easter meal.
3. Some are buying Easter cards to give or mail.
4. If the kids are young, some are preparing for the Easter Egg Hunt.
5. I am preparing my Maundy Service sermon.
6. I hope Jon is preparing his Easter Sermon.
7. At church there are endless things to do in preparation for Easter Sunday.

In life, we all experience some unexpected things we did not know to prepare for. Other things will happen that we knew would happen yet failed to prepare.

Jesus knew He would finish His work on earth and return to heaven and the disciples would then be without Him. Jesus used His last night with them to prepare them.

- For three years Jesus prepared His disciples for what was coming.
- On the night before the crucifixion, He met with them in the Upper Room and gave them their final instructions.

- Jesus was preparing His disciples for Easter and what was to follow.

Text: John 13:1-17

1. The first lesson Jesus taught the disciples was to be humble servants.

- He used His washing the disciples feet to teach the lesson.
- The washing of feet was a visual and tangible way of teaching servanthood.
- In verse 17, Jesus said what He had done was an example.
- Jesus used symbolic things, pictorial things, parables, types, figures of speech to teach things.

Illustration: Jesus said that He was a door. When Jesus said that He was a door He did not mean that he was a piece of wood on hinges.

Illustration: Jesus said that if we had faith as small as a mustard seed that we could pray, and mountains would move. This is true as long as what we pray is in God's will.

Illustration: In John Phillips commentary on the gospel of John, he said that "wooden literalism" causes us to miss the lesson Jesus was teaching.

Application: There is no greater thing that can be said about a person than they have a servant's heart. In my profession, this has sadly become the exception.

Illustration: In David Jeremiah's Study Bible, he has a comment about this I close with.

Dr. Jeremiah said, "The question in the Kingdom of God is not how many people are serving the leaders, but how many people are the leaders serving?"