I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us reflect deeply on these words of life and their profound meaning for our faith.

Imagine God Himself approaching you, standing before you in all His glory. Your first impulse is to fall down and worship Him. But to your amazement, He is the first to kneel and wash your feet (John 13:4–5, ESV).

How would you feel? The truth is, you would likely feel uncomfortable, perhaps even resistant. The natural human response struggles to accept humility from the Almighty. We are accustomed to revering God from a distance, recognizing His majesty, power, and holiness. It feels unnatural that the Creator, the King of kings, would stoop to serve His creation. It would be like a father giving a gift to his child and then being the first to bow in gratitude to the child—or like someone robbed of their possessions, only to have the thief act as if they have done nothing wrong. The instinctive reaction is disbelief, resistance, or even offense.

Yet this is precisely how God relates to us. And He makes it clear: if we do not accept His humble service, we have no fellowship

with Him.

John 13:8 (NIV) says:

> *“Peter answered him, ‘No, you shall never wash my feet.’ Jesus replied, ‘Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.’”*

Notice the theological depth here. Peter recognizes the authority and holiness of Jesus and initially refuses this act of servanthood. But Jesus teaches that humility is not optional—it is essential for fellowship with Him. Spiritual intimacy with Christ requires acceptance of His service, which comes not to demean, but to restore, cleanse, and sanctify.

This is a powerful revelation of the kingly-servant nature of Christ. He is fully God, fully sovereign, worthy of worship (Philippians 2:9–11, ESV). Yet He voluntarily takes the form of a servant to meet our needs (Philippians 2:6–7). He is a King with a crown, yet also a servant with a towel. His majesty does not diminish His willingness to stoop in love.

John 13:12–15 (NIV):

> *“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.*
> *‘You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.’”*

Theologically, this passage reveals several key truths:

1. Christ’s humility is voluntary and relational – Though fully God, Jesus humbled Himself to serve, illustrating that true leadership in the kingdom of God is expressed through sacrificial love (Mark 10:43–45).
2. Service is inseparable from fellowship with God – To reject Christ’s service is to reject participation in His life and mission. Spiritual intimacy requires surrender, acceptance, and humility.
3. Imitation of Christ is commanded – By washing the disciples’ feet, Jesus established a pattern for Christian living: humility, service, and love are not merely virtues; they are the very way of the kingdom.

We are called to embody this same attitude. Serving others should be a privilege, not an obligation. Helping a loved one,

listening to someone in need, praying for others—these are not burdens but opportunities to reflect Christ's glory. Philippians 2:3–4 (ESV) reminds us:

> *"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."*

Serving like Christ is not just ethical—it is spiritual participation in His kingdom. When we humble ourselves, we join in the redemptive work of God in the world. When we refuse, we isolate ourselves from the fellowship of Christ.

May the Lord grant us the grace to embrace His humble service, to wash the feet of others in love, and to live as imitators of Christ.

Shalom.

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and the building up of His kingdom.

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