

Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2010

Teaching Part 1: Maundy Thursday & Footwashing

- As I am talking Phil and Tim are to go into the audience to select 6 participants
- Tonight, we want to share a couple of experiences with you as we celebrate “Maundy Thursday”
- Maundy is a term that comes from the latin, “mandatum” - would would know the word as “mandate” or “command”
- Our first experience together is a foot washing, I’ve asked Tim & Phil....they will be conducting a foot washing with these participants.
- As they spend their time washing these participants feet, I would like us all to remain quiet and I want you to have these 3 words in mind: **Serve | Humility | Love**
- I’ve asked Tim and Phil to pray for each participant as they wash their feet, you won’t hear their prayers, but that will be the only voices you will hear.
- READ **John 13:1-17**
 - 1) Serve - a good host would provide water or possibly a servant...but a free person would never stoop to wash someone’s feet.
 - 2) Humility - What are you too good for? Jesus, the Messiah...Son of God, with great humility, washes feet.
 - 3) Love - When ever you read the account in John 13, its very easy to go into a sermon about being helpful. Too easy. Being helpful is giving someone some water to wash their feet, any good host does that! The difference here is love!

John 13:34-35, “So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”

Tonight would be a great night to set aside differences, practice forgiveness and renew your love for one another in this room.

Prayer

Teaching Part 2: The Passover & Communion

- Jesus and His disciples were gathered to celebrate the passover:

Luke 22:14-16, ***“When the time came, Jesus and the apostles sat down together at the table. Jesus said, “I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. For I tell you now that I won’t eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.”***

- The Passover meal is also known as a Seder Meal in which different elements would be eaten, there would be a certain way to dress and so forth, all given to the Israelites to remember what took place in Egypt. Traditionally children are involved with questions to be asked that would help in telling the story of God and His people. The meal, the dress and the story were all used not only to remember what God did, but to become part of the story. This was their people, so it’s their story as well.

- One of the elements that was pivotal was the passover lamb or goat:

- Exodus 12:1-13

Just a few weeks ago, Tim taught on Cain and Abel, Abel uses the best of his firstborn lambs as a sacrifice to God:

Genesis 4:4, ***“Abel also brought a gift—the best of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift,...”***

[1 lamb for 1 person]

Passover: one lamb/goat for one family (Exodus 12:3)

[1 lamb for 1 family]

Day of Atonement: (Leviticus 16:20-22)

20) “When Aaron has finished purifying the Most Holy Place and the Tabernacle and the altar, he must present the live goat. 21) He will lay both of his hands on the goat’s head and confess over it all the wickedness, rebellion, and sins of the people of Israel. In this way, he will transfer the people’s sins to the head of the goat. Then a man specially chosen for the task will drive the goat into the wilderness. 22) As the goat goes into the wilderness, it will carry all the people’s sins upon itself into a desolate land.

[1 lamb for 1 people]

John 1:29, ***“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”***

[1 lamb (Jesus) for ALL people]

In the first passover, when the God’s people are finally set free...it is not Plagues 1-9 that sets them free, but the death of the firstborn sets brings them freedom. 1 Cor. 5:7 tells us clearly that Christ is our Passover Lamb...as we take it, lets not just remember the story, but know that we are part of the story, we are God’s people. As we take these elements of Bread & the Cup, we remember the body and blood of Christ. It would be after this meal that the disciples would begin to understand about what Jesus said of his sacrifice...

- **Tim will lead us in communion: Finish the story: Jesus would leave this meal...**

- **Jay will instruct on how communion is taken this evening**