

Zion Church PCA  
Rob Hotz  
AFC Elective: Shaped By Mercy

**Week 1:**

- What did you take away from Luke 10?
- Keller book

**Week 2: Lessons from the Basin & the Towel**

**Read Philippians 2**

**Read John 13**

Video: [The Basin & the Towel](#)

**Introduction**

- Jesus calls us to follow in his example
- Context: deep spiritual lessons about “spiritual washing” (sanctification & justification)
- What is the practical lesson?
  - “You should do just as I have done to you.”

**What Did Jesus Do?**

- Rose from supper
- Laid aside his outer garments
- Tied the towel around his waist
- Poured the water into the basin
- Bent his knees and washed the disciples’ feet
- Wiped their feet with the towel

**We are to follow in Christ’s example of love**

- Christ would have us love others so much we would delight to do anything which would promote their well being
- We ought to do kindnesses, even in little things
  - To lessen sorrow
  - To multiply joy

- Even at the cost of self-denial and self-sacrifice
- We ought to love everyone created in the image of God
  - This was Christ's incarnational conduct on earth

### **We are to follow in Christ's example of humility**

- **I Peter 5:5:** "Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."
- **Luke 18:14:** "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."
- **Philippians 2:1-8**
- **If our Lord Jesus Christ did not think it below him to wash the disciples' feet (dirty, ignorant fishermen), there is nothing his disciples should think they are too great or good to do**

### **Mercy Ministry of Humility and Love**

- Deeds of mercy done in humility and love are much more easily perceived than words
  - Words (and doctrine) have their place, but they usually should follow deeds, which explain the way
- Deeds of mercy are clearly understood
- Deeds of mercy can be applied to people of all classes
  - The simple man may be confounded by words, when in the absence of deeds of mercy
- Deeds of mercy are tools to be used by people of all walks of life
  - Even the poor, uneducated disciples could practice deeds of love and humility
- Therefore, Christ's example leads us to words and deeds of humility and love towards all men

### **The Integrity of Mercy**

- **John 13:35:** "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
  - When we serve one another, our service lends integrity to the gospel
- Mercy is the most audacious when it seems least deserved
  - Are you withholding mercy from any "Judas" in your life?