



Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

Lesson Aim: To see Jesus' example of loving through serving.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Loves

THE WORD

Bible Story: John 13:1, 4-7, 12-17

What He has done: Jesus washes His followers' feet.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Show love."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Unit 3: The King Who Loves			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
12	Jesus Is Anointed, John 12:1-3	Jesus approved of Mary's gift.	To give our treasure to Jesus.
13	The Triumphal Entry, Mark 11:1-10	Jesus rode into Jerusalem as King.	To praise Jesus as the King who came to save us.
14	Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet, John 13:1, 4-7, 12-17	Jesus washes His followers' feet.	To see Jesus' example of loving through serving.
15	Jesus and the Last Supper, Luke 22:14, 19-20	Jesus gave His followers a way to remember Him.	To know Jesus used His Last Supper to help us remember Him.
16	Jesus in the Garden, Matthew 26:36-41	Jesus prayed in the garden.	To know God wants us to watch and pray.
17	The Cross: Peter Denies Jesus, Luke 22:54-62	Jesus is denied by Peter.	To tell others we know Jesus.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read 1 Peter 4:7-11. Please join us in praying, "Thank You for showing us how to serve. As I wash Your children's feet, fill me with Your Spirit so each child would see You in my eyes, hands, and voice. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a footprint
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Show love."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song: "We Love" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "How Wide?" "I Will Remember" "It's Praise Time" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Love One Another" "Sing Praises" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Jesus Loves Me" "Oh, How I Love Jesus" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Cedarmont Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 3, Lesson 14
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: John 13:1, 4-7, 12-17	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at John 13:5 Visual: Bowl and towel
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Foot Washing Kit	Small bag (paper or plastic), piece of sponge, piece of cloth, piece of soap, crayons or markers, labels or blank stickers if using plastic bags
		Game: We Can Show Love	None
		Game: Clean Feet, Now We Eat	Bowl, washcloth, towel
		Snack: Wash and Snack	Favorite snack, damp washcloths or wipes
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 3, Lesson 14 Color This Story: "Jesus Washes His Friends' Feet"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: John 13:1, 4-7, 12-17	None
	Up to 10	Game: Pass the Love of Jesus	Large heart-shaped item, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse "We Love," CD Player
	Up to 10	Game: Hugs of Love	Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse "We Love," CD Player
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about showing love by serving others

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Show love

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a footprint. **Let this sticker of a footprint help you remember Jesus washed the feet of His friends to show He loved them. Today's Whisper Verse is "Show love."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Show love."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:

"Show" The tip of the index finger of the right hand is placed in the center of the inward-facing palm of the left hand. Remaining in that position, move both hands forward.

"love." The hands hug over the heart to indicate the concept of love.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Show love," Hosea 1:7. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as the King who loves

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to that designated area.



It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the King who loves us. Today, we will learn how Jesus washed the feet of His friends to show He loved them. That reminds me of today's Whisper Verse: "Show love." Let's try it together. Review Whisper Verse together: "Show love." Include sign language. **Jesus wants us to show love to our friends as He showed love to us.** Sing: Bible Memory Verse Song "We Love."



Speaking of friends, let's see how our friends Delbert and Lello are doing today. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 3, Lesson 14.



Jesus shows His love to us. One way we can show love to Jesus is by giving our offering. The money from this offering can be used to show the love of Jesus to many people. Play: "Love One Another" as background music while collecting offering.

Jesus shows love to everyone. His love is the widest (all spread arms) **and the longest** (all reach arms forward) **and the highest** (all reach high) **and the deepest** (all squat down low) **love in the whole wide world. Let's do those motions as we sing about His wide, long, high, and deep love.** Sing: "How Wide?" with motions.

Jesus wants you to know He loves you with that wide, and long, and high, and deep love. Raise your hand if you know Jesus loves you. Sing: "Jesus Loves Me."



Jesus washes His friends' feet

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others and then self.

Last time, we heard how Jesus rode on a donkey into Jerusalem as the King who came to save us. Today, we will hear how Jesus washed His friends' feet to show He loved them. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to John 13:5.

WATCH THE WORD: JOHN 13:1, 4-7, 12-17

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, hold a bowl and towel. Other visual options include craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- Jesus planned to show His friends
- How much He loved each one of them.
- To show His love—that was His goal,
- So He poured water into a bowl.
- Jesus knelt by each man's seat
- And He began to wash their feet.
- With a towel He rubbed them dry.
- Then Peter asked Jesus why.
- "Are You washing my feet, too?"
- He knew that's not what kings do.
- Jesus asked, "Now do you see
- The reason why I wash your feet?"
- This example is for you;
- So do for others what I've done for you.
- Go show love to one another.
- You can do it by serving each other."



What did Jesus wash for His friends? (Their feet.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read John 13:5 from teacher's Bible.

Jesus helped His friends by washing their feet. He wanted to show He loved them. What are we showing to others when we help them? (Love.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Show love." Include sign language or hand motions.



Showing love to others

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: FOOT WASHING KIT

Purpose: For children to make a foot washing kit to help them practice showing love to others as Jesus did.

Supplies: Small bags (paper or plastic), sponge, cloth, soap, crayons or markers, labels or blank stickers if using plastic bags

Prepare: Draw or print on label (or draw directly on paper bag) the outline of a foot and the words “**Jesus washed their feet.**” **John 13:1, 4-7, 12-17**

Teacher Tip: Instructions for using the Foot Washing Kit are on the Ponder, Pray, and Play card. You may choose to review the instructions during the lesson.

Directions:

1. Color the foot on the label.
2. Place label onto bag.
3. Put sponge, cloth and soap in bag.
4. If using paper bags, allow children to color the bag.

Craft Discussion:

- **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** (“Show love.”) **Let’s say it right now!** Say Whisper Verse together with hand motions.
- Ask each child the following questions: **Who loves you?** (Children respond.) **How does he** (or she) **show you love by helping you?** (ie. gives me food to eat, reads to me, reaches tall things, etc.)
- **Jesus helped His friends because He wanted to show He loved them. How did Jesus help His friends?** (He washed their feet.)
- **You can show love by helping others, too. When you get home, ask someone in your family if you can wash their feet with the sponge and soap in your kit.**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: WE CAN SHOW LOVE

Purpose: Children will act out ways they can show love by helping others.

Supplies: None

**Jesus showed He loved His friends. What did Jesus wash to show He loved them? (His friends' feet.)
Can you show me some ways you can show love by helping others?**

Directions:

1. Seat children in a circle.
2. Read one of the situations from the list below or from a list you have created.
3. Choose two or more children to stand in the center of the circle and act out how to show love in that situation. Teacher may need to offer suggestions of how to act out ways to show love.
4. Continue playing until all children have had a chance to act out a way of showing love.

Sample Situations:

- **Your little brother is sad. How can you show love to your little brother?**
 - (Children hug.)
- **Your puppy is hungry and thirsty. How can you show love to your puppy?**
 - (Children pretend to put food and water into bowls.)
- **Your parent tells you it is bedtime. How can you show love to your parent?**
 - (Children pretend to lie down and go to sleep.)
- **Your friend comes over to play. How can you show love to your friend?**
 - (Children pretend to share toys.)

GAME: CLEAN FEET, NOW WE EAT

Purpose: Teacher will help children relate to the Bible Story by pretending to wash their feet.

Supplies: Bowl, washcloth, towel

Optional: If time allows, teacher can briefly wash the feet of each child. You will need a bowl, water, washcloths, and many towels.

Teacher's Tip: Play this game in preparation for the snack.

Let's act out the Bible Story! I'll pretend to be Jesus and you can pretend to be His friends.

Directions:

1. All of the children and the teacher stand on one side of room.
2. **Let's walk to the home where we will eat. First, we have to walk across this muddy road. We are wearing sandals, so our feet are going to get very dirty!** Lead children in walking across the room while pretending mud is squishing between your toes.
3. **We made it! But we can't go inside with dirty feet! Raise your hand if you have to clean up at home before you can eat supper?** (Children respond.) **I will clean your feet for you so we can eat supper.** Seat children in a circle with legs outstretched. Using bowl, washcloth, and towel, pretend to wash the mud from each child's shoes.
4. **We have clean feet, so now we can eat!** Move from this game to the snack.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: WASH AND SNACK

Purpose: Children will show love by helping each other wash hands before enjoying their snack.

Snack Suggestion: Favorite snack, damp washcloths or wipes

We can show love by helping each other. Let's show love by helping each other wash our hands before we eat our snack. Help each child find a friend. Guide the children through taking turns washing their friend's hands with a damp washcloth or wipe. **You did a great job helping each other. Now we can enjoy our snack with clean hands!**

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate motions to Whisper Verse: "Show love."
 - **Jesus' friends had walked on dirty roads and their feet were dirty. How did Jesus show love to His friends?** (He washed their feet.)
 - **When your hands get dirty, what can you do?** (Wash them.) **Today, you showed love by helping a friend have clean hands, just like Jesus helped His friends have clean feet!**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your Foot Washing Kit. Show your family how Jesus showed love to His friends by washing their feet.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about ways to show your love by helping others.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Jesus Washes His Friends' Feet." Discuss Bible Story and play Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "We Love" as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: JOHN 13:1, 4-7, 12-17

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Jesus planned to show His friends** (Whisper Verse sign language for “show.”)
- **How much He loved each one of them.** (Whisper Verse sign language for “love.”)
- **To show His love—that was His goal,** (Place fist on heart.)
- **So He poured water in a bowl.** (Pretend to pour from a pitcher.)

- **Jesus knelt by each man's seat** (Point down.)
- **And He began to wash their feet.** (Pretend to wash feet.)
- **With a towel He rubbed them dry.** (Rub hands together as if drying.)
- **Then Peter asked Jesus why.** (Scratch head as if wondering.)

- **“Are You washing my feet, too?”** (Point to self.)
- **He knew that’s not what kings do.** (Shake head “no.”)
- **Jesus asked, “Now do you see** (Point to eyes.)
- **The reason why I wash your feet?** (Point to feet.)

- **This example is for you;** (Point to one another.)
- **So do for others what I’ve done for you.** (Point to self.)
- **Go show love to one another.** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **You can do it by serving each other.”** (Reach palms forward as if to offer a gift.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“We love because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

GAME: PASS THE LOVE OF JESUS

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: A large heart-shape, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song “We Love,” CD player

Jesus loves you and me. Jesus wants us to love each other, too. Pretend this heart is your love. As we say our new Bible Memory Verse, we are going to pass the heart around the circle. We will be giving our love to each other!

Directions:

1. Stand in the circle with the children.
2. Say the Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each phrase for children to repeat.
3. Have the children pass the heart around the circle as they repeat the Bible Memory Verse.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: HUGS OF LOVE

Purpose: Children practice showing love as instructed in the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "We Love," CD player

Jesus loves you and He loves me. What does Jesus want us to show each other? (Love.) We can show each other love by giving hugs. When the music starts, hug as many as you can before the music stops.

Directions:

1. Start the music.
2. Children hug as many other children as they can before the music stops.
3. Stop the music.
4. Play again as time allows.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about showing love by serving others.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 3, Lesson 14: Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

PONDER! Read John 13:1, 4-7, 12-17 with your family. Talk about how Jesus washed the feet of His friends. Jesus showed He loved His friends by washing their feet before they sat down to eat. You can show others you love them by helping them. How can you show love to your family?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for showing your love by helping me. Please help me show love to others by helping them. Amen."

PLAY! Use your Foot Washing Kit to show a family member how Jesus washed His friends' feet. Pour water into a bowl. Wet the sponge and rub it against the soap. Rub his or her feet with the sponge. Wipe them dry with the cloth. Talk about ways you can show your love by helping others.

Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse: 1 John 4:19

"We love because He first loved us."