



Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

Lesson Aim: To love others through serving as Jesus did.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Loves

THE WORD

Bible Story: John 13:1, 4-5, 12-17

What He has done: Jesus washed His disciples' feet.

Key Verse: John 13:14-15

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Deuteronomy 6:5

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23-24

Unit 3: The King Who Loves			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
12	Jesus is Anointed, John 12:2-8	Jesus received and delighted in Mary's sacrificial worship.	To give our treasures to Jesus as an act of worship, as Mary did.
13	The Triumphal Entry, Luke 19:30-32, 35-36; John 12:13	Jesus rode into Jerusalem as the humble King.	To praise Jesus as the humble King who came to save us.
14	Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet, John 13:1, 4-5, 12-17	Jesus washed His disciples' feet.	To love others through serving as Jesus did.
15	Jesus and the Last Supper, Luke 22:14-20	Jesus gave His disciples a way to remember Him.	To see communion as a way for us to remember Jesus.
16	Jesus in the Garden, Matthew 26:36-41	Jesus prayed before He faced His suffering.	To know we should pray like Jesus prayed.
17	The Cross: Peter Denies Jesus, Luke 22:54-62	Jesus is denied three times by Peter.	To understand Peter's dilemma and to be ready 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 that all the children would see You in my eyes, hands and voice. Amen."

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Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Care to Help	Blindfolds for half of the children, furniture or large boxes
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: "Search Me, O God" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "At the Name of Jesus" "Neither Death nor Life" "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" "I Love You, Lord" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Absolute All Time Favorites For Kids Cedarhurst Worship for Kids: Volume 2
		Worship Scripture Reading: Ephesians 3:17b-18	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 14 Kingdom Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: John 13:1, 4-5, 12-17	Map—Jerusalem, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, bowl of water, sponge, towel
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster
		Christ Connection: Deuteronomy 6:5	
		Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
GOT TIME?	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Piece of sea sponge, Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Search Me, O God," CD player
	Up to 10	Snack: Love to Serve the Snack	Favorite snack
	Up to 10	Game: Footprint Relay	Paper plates, floor tape or twine
	Up to 10	Craft: Foot Washing Kit	Small bags (paper or plastic), labels if using plastic bags, sponges, cloth, pieces of soap, markers or crayons
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Circle Tag	Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Heart Toss	Heart-shaped pillow, beanbag, or inflatable ball with heart drawn on it; Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.

Meet & Greet Question: Who did you help this week?

GAME: CARE TO HELP

Purpose: Children experience serving by helping each other through an obstacle course.

Supplies: Blindfolds for half of the children, furniture or large boxes

Prepare: Use the furniture or large boxes to create an obstacle course. (For example: Children crawl under tables, weave around chairs, step over stacks of boxes, etc.)

Directions:

1. Children form pairs and line up together on one end of the obstacle course.
2. Give a blindfold to each pair and have one partner help the other partner put it on.
3. Pairs take turns going through the obstacle course as the seeing partner guides the blindfolded partner. Encourage seeing partners to be careful guides so the blindfolded partners do not fall.
4. When all the pairs have finished the obstacle course, have partners trade places and go through the obstacle course again.

When you were blindfolded, what did your partner do for you? (Helped me safely through the obstacle course.) **When you were the one who could see, how did you feel about helping your partner?** (Children respond.) **When you help each other, you show you care. Jesus cared about His disciples; He loved them very much.**

In our story today, Jesus helps the disciples in a very special way to show His love. Let's find out what Jesus did.



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 music as children move to the designated area.

The Seven Stars of Lent

If this lesson is taught during the Lenten season (the 40 days before Easter), we recommend the Seven Stars of Lent activity located at ResourceWell.org under Children - Other Resources. Choose one star for each week of the Lent season.



Today, we worship the King who loves. In today's story, Jesus shows His love for His disciples by washing their feet. Jesus wants us to know how much He loves us, too! Read Ephesians 3:17b-18.



Jesus showed His love by serving His disciples. He wants us to follow His example by loving others through serving. One way we can do that is by giving our offering of money to the church. God will use it to serve others so they can know His love, too! Sing Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Search Me, O God." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on giving.



Perform Kingdom Adventures script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 3, Lesson 14.



Jesus washes the disciples' feet

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Foot washing supplies: Bowl of water, sponge, towel

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned about the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. What did the crowd do to praise Jesus as He passed by? (Laid their coats on the road, waved palm branches, shouted "Hosanna!") **Today, we will hear how Jesus showed His love to His disciples at the last supper they had together. They were in Jerusalem.** If a map is available, show Jerusalem.



If you brought your Bible, open it now and share with others. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals Bible Story Scripture reference: John 13:1, 4-5, 12-17.

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

In Bible Times, people walked on dirt roads, so their feet were usually dusty and tired. It was customary for servants to wash the feet of the dinner guests. Today, as our helper reads this Bible Story, I will take the towel, bowl, and sponge as a servant would have done, and I will wash the feet of one of you. Choose one volunteer for foot washing. **As you watch this foot washing, listen carefully to what the Bible says in the book of John.** Choose a helper to read. Helper stands next to teacher and reads John 13:1, 4-5, 12-17 as the teacher washes the feet of the volunteer.

Option: If more children want to have their feet washed, continue the foot washing ceremony as you lead The Way discussion until you have washed everyone's feet.



Jesus wants us to serve others

THE WAY

Additional supplies: Whiteboard, chalkboard, or large paper and writing utensil

Did it seem strange to see your teacher washing someone's feet? (Children respond.) **In Bible Times, foot washing was the job of a servant...not a teacher or an honored guest. Jesus gave up His throne in heaven to come to earth for us. He is the most important person that ever lived on the earth, yet He made Himself like the least important servant when He washed His disciples' feet. How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus washed their feet?** (Loved, honored, etc.)

The Passover meal was Jesus' last supper before He went to the cross. Jesus knew it was almost time for Him to leave the world. Jesus washed their feet for two reasons: To show His love for them and to teach them to serve others.

Let's take 60 seconds to brainstorm all the ways we can serve others this week. Ready? Set? Go! Teacher makes list of the children's service ideas. **Jesus used a bowl of water and a towel to serve His disciples. What items will you need to use for the tasks we brainstormed?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus showed His love to the disciples when He washed their feet. How has Jesus already shown His love for you? (Children respond.) **Jesus showed His love when He gave His life on the cross for us. Thousands of years before Jesus showed His love in that way, the Bible told us what we are to do in return for the great love God has shown to us.**



Everyone, place your Bible on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Deuteronomy 6:5. **Let's find this verse.** Read Deuteronomy 6:5.

What is it that God wants us to do? (To love Him with all our heart, soul and strength.) **What are some ways we can do that this week?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is a piece of sea sponge. At home, thread your sponge with some string to make a bracelet, necklace, or keychain. Whatever you do with your sponge, use it as a reminder to serve others as Jesus did.

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: Did anyone bring in their completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 14 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Jesus washing the feet of His disciples. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Search Me, O God," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: LOVE TO SERVE THE SNACK

Purpose: Connect with your students while letting them demonstrate love by serving each other.

Snack Suggestion: Favorite snack

Jesus showed us how to show love by serving each other. Let's show love by serving our snack to each other.

Directions:

1. Assign tasks so all of the children can help prepare, distribute, or clean up after the snack.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the children to answer the Snack Discussion Question: **"How do you show your love to other people?"**

GAME: FOOTPRINT RELAY

Purpose: Children serve one another by taking on and off one another's shoes.

Supplies: Paper plates, floor tape or twine

Prepare: Draw a footprint on two paper plates for each team.

Teacher Tip: If children are not wearing shoes, you may substitute a pair of sandals for each team. Instead of removing shoes for each other, teammates will put the sandals on the player who is next running the relay.

In this race, we will serve one another by removing and putting on shoes for our team members. Let's see which team is the fastest!

Directions:

1. Divide children evenly into relay teams. You may have several small teams or two large teams.
2. Line up each team at one end of playing area.
3. Mark a line at the opposite end of the play area with floor tape or twine.
4. Give each relay team two footprint paper plates.
5. On your signal, the second player on each team removes the shoes of the first player.
6. The first player places his or her feet on each paper plate and slides to the line at the opposite end of the playing area and back by keeping his/her feet on the plates. (Note: If the plates won't slide, players can pick up and reset the plates after each step.)
7. After returning to his/her team, the first player removes the shoes of the second player.
8. The second player repeats step 6.
9. When the second player returns to his/her team, players 3 and 4, repeat steps 5-8. Continue until all players have had a turn. The first team to complete the relay is the winner.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: FOOT WASHING KIT

Purpose: For children to assemble a Foot Washing Kit to serve someone they love.

Supplies: Small bags (paper or plastic...will need large adhesive labels if using plastic bags), sponges, cloth, pieces of soap, markers or crayons.

Prepare: Display: **Jesus washed their feet. John 13:1-17.**

Who did Jesus serve in our story? (His disciples.) **How did He serve them?** (Washed their feet.)

Why did He serve them? (To show His love and to give an example of serving others.) **What did He tell His disciples to do?** (Serve others as He had served them.) **Jesus showed us how to love others by serving.**

Let's each make a Foot Washing Kit. You can use the kit to show love to people in your family. Many adults have tired feet at night. You might use the kit to wash and rub someone's feet to help them feel better. Tell them how Jesus washed His disciples' feet to show He loved them.

Directions:

1. Copy onto bag (or adhesive label): **Jesus washed their feet. John 13:1-17**
2. Decorate the bag (or adhesive label) with markers or crayons.
3. If using plastic bag, attach adhesive label.
4. Place sponge, soap, and cloth in bag.
5. At home, ask someone you love if you can show you love them by washing and rubbing their feet. Ask them to sit down in a comfortable chair. Pour some warm water into a bowl. Use the sponge, soap, and water to wash their feet. Dry their feet with the cloth. Rub their feet after they are dry.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23-24

GAME: CIRCLE TAG

Purpose: Children play an alternate version of the traditional game, "Duck, Duck, Goose," to learn the words of the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Our Bible Memory Verse uses many action words such as "search me," "test me," and "lead me." In this fast action game, the leader will say the verse word for word as he or she taps the shoulder of everyone in the circle. The player tapped on the last word ("everlasting") is to race the leader around the circle to see who can reach the seat first.

Directions:

1. Seat children in a circle and say the Bible Memory Verse together.
2. Choose one child to be the leader.
3. The leader walks around the outside of the circle. Each time the leader gently taps a child on the shoulder, the leader say the next word in the Bible Memory Verse.
4. If the leader cannot remember the next word, then the child tapped or the teacher says it.
5. The child tapped on the last word of the verse ("everlasting") jumps up and chases the leader.
6. If the leader reaches the seat before being tagged by the child he or she tapped, that child becomes the leader. If the leader is tagged, he or she is the leader again or may choose a new child to be the leader.
7. Repeat as time allows.

GAME: HEART TOSS

Purpose: To help children engage and memorize the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse: Psalm 139:23-24.

Supplies: One heart-shaped pillow, beanbag, or inflatable ball with heart drawn on it; Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Directions:

1. Seat children in a circle.
2. The first child says the first word of the Bible Memory Verse and quickly tosses the heart (pillow, beanbag, or ball) to another child.
3. The catcher says the next word in the verse and quickly tosses the heart to another child.
4. Continue tossing until the verse is completed and all children have had a turn.
5. See how quickly the verse can be recited.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part One studies the life of Jesus (Circa 0-33 A.D.) beginning with the only story of His childhood and then focusing on His relationships, His ministry, His teachings, and the events surrounding His death, resurrection, and ascension. It concludes with a study of His kingdom parables. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Jesus is Anointed (Circa 30-33 A.D.) What did Mary do with her expensive perfume? (She poured it onto the feet of Jesus.) **Why do you think Mary did this?** (Children respond.) **What did Judas say about Mary's costly gift for Jesus?** (He said the money should have been spent on the poor.) **What did Jesus say to Judas?** ("Leave her alone!")

The Triumphal Entry (Circa 30-33 A.D.) How did Jesus enter the city of Jerusalem? (Riding on a donkey.) **What did the people do as Jesus entered Jerusalem?** (They lay their cloaks on the ground, waved palm branches, and shouted "Hosanna!") **What does "Hosanna" mean?** ("Save" or "Here comes the Savior.")

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (Circa 30-33 A.D.) Why did Jesus wash the disciples' feet? (To show His love and to give them an example of how to show love through serving.) **Why was it unusual to have an important person like Jesus wash feet?** (It was the job of a lowly servant.)

How to create a Bible Timeline for the Life of Jesus:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below.
Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

Life of Jesus: Jesus and His Father's House > Jesus Is Baptized > Jesus Is Tempted > Jesus Calls His Disciples > Jesus Clears the Temple > Jesus Is Transfigured > Jesus Teaches the Beatitudes > Jesus and Nicodemus > Jesus and the Woman at the Well > Jesus with Mary and Martha > Jesus and Zacchaeus > Jesus Is Anointed > The Triumphal Entry > Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet > Jesus and the Last Supper > Jesus in the Garden > Jesus and the Cross > Jesus Is Risen > The Road to Emmaus > Jesus Talks with Peter > The Great Commission > The King Ascends

Kingdom Parables: The Lost Sheep > The Sower > The Vine and the Branches > The Workers in the Vineyard > The Great Banquet > The Rich Fool > The Talents > Lazarus and the Rich Man > The Lost Son > The Good Samaritan