Week Three: Humble Servant by Abel Lopez (Midway)

**Intro**

What pops into your head when I say the words ‘humble servant’

Maybe it's your younger sibling?

Maybe it's the way you think your parents see you

Or maybe it’s the way you think people should act around you, as humble servants

I think of Mother Teresa, who was arguably one of the most humble servants to ever walk this earth

Mother Teresa at just 12 years old became convinced she was called to be a nun and wanted to serve God with her life

At 18 she left her parents home and joined a community of nuns

Several years later she moved to India and lived in the poorest areas of India

She barely survived, but she taught children, built homes for orphans, nursing homes for people with diseases, and hospices for the terminally ill, and so much more

https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1979/teresa/facts/

https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1979/teresa/biographical/

**Transition: Mother Teresa gives us an amazing example of what it looks like to be a humble servant, but what if I told you we have an even better example of a humble servant.**

**Recap**

For the past couple of weeks we have been in a series called Who is God?

I want you to get familiar with who God is, we hear a lot about this God

That we are supposed to worship Him, and have a relationship with Him

But who even is He?

The whole point of this series has been to take a deeper look at 4 attributes of God

We’ve covered God being a beautiful creator, a merciful judge

Today we’re going to see how He is a humble servant, the most humble servant

**T: Ask yourself the question, why would it be important to know that God is a Humble servant?**

**Need**

I mean does it really make a difference to know God is a humble servant?

I think it does; What kind of person is more attractive to follow?

One that is arrogant, never gets their hands dirty, and wants everything done for them?

Or someone who works hard, who isn’t arrogant, who does things humbly?

When we see someone who is truly humble - it sticks out

B/c humility is different, we’re attracted to humility b/c humility invites us in

It’s why mother Teresa’s story is so unique

And it’s what makes God truly unique

**Passage**

Read John 13

**T: if you remember anything from this message, remember this one phrase**

**Big idea**

Jesus is a humble servant

This might be confusing but why are we talking about Jesus now

Wasn’t this supposed to be a message on who GOD is? Not on who JESUS is?

Well, long story short, Jesus IS God.

The Bible teaches us & Jesus shows us that He is 100% man but he is also 100% God

And for those of you who are good at math; we can’t be more than 100% of anything

But since Jesus is God, He proved that, by healing, saving, and ultimately raising again from the dead

**Jesus is a humble servant knowing He was going to die**

* The 1st powerful reality is that Jesus knew He was going to die
* Verse 1 tells us straight up; “Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world”
* Think about that for a second, Jesus KNEW He was going to leave this world
* He knew it would be a brutal, painful, tortuous death
* And what does He choose to do even in the midst of knowing his departure was approaching
* He chose to wash the disciples feet, he was willing, it was his destiny to wash their feet
* Put yourselves in this story - would you act the same way Jesus did? How would you respond if you were there with Jesus?
* When you decide to follow Jesus, you’re not following some person who never served, who was never humble
* You’re putting your trust in someone who had all the power, yet didn’t act on it
* You’re putting your trust in someone who was willing, humble, lowly
* **Jesus is a humble servant**

**T: The 2nd powerful reality about Jesus washing the disciples feet was…**

**Jesus is a humble servant knowing someone would betray Him**

* Pause. How many of you often serve your friends radically just to do it?
* Now, how many of you do that for someone who is going to betray you? Backstab you?
* Probably not many of us - and what does Jesus do?
* Let’s look at the text “when the Devil had already put it into the heart of Judas to betray him”
* Verse 5 “The Jesus poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciple’s feet”
* **Jesus is the most humble servant** there ever was
* This is God, He serves, loves, protects, and humbled himself to wash the feet of Judas
* Now let’s say you knew someone was going to betray you, or is in the process of doing so - how would you react? Be honest…
* I would say it would be extremely difficult for me to serve someone who was actively trying to betray me
* And yet this is the example Jesus gave us

**T: The 3rd powerful reality about Jesus washing the disciple’s feet was…**

**Jesus is a humble servant knowing we might not follow His example perfectly**

* One of the biggest reasons **Jesus is a humble servant** is to give us an example
* Verse 14 says “If I then your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet”
* Verse 15 “For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you”
* Washing someone’s feet back then was reserved for people who were seen as lower class, slaves that were Jewish or even women and children
* Jesus flips the roles - even though He is seen as a their teacher, he would show what it means to truly be a humble servant
* This is the Jesus we serve, the one who came to serve first and serve the most
* And even in the midst of these less than ideal circumstances
* Knowing he was going to die, knowing he would be betrayed, and knowing we wouldn’t follow him perfectly
* He still chose to wash his disciples feet
* Because His humility doesn’t depend on his circumstances, it depends on His character
* This is who Jesus is; **a humble servant**

**Gospel**

* Jesus washing his disciples feet was a glimpse into what would be happening to him several days later
* Washing the disciple’s feet wasn’t the ultimate sign of humility for Jesus
* It was being killed on the cross, taking on your sin and my sin, so that we wouldn’t have to
* Jesus’ ultimate act of humility came not in washing the disciples feet, but washing us of our sin

**Potential Small group questions**

1. What stood out to you from the passage or message?
2. Which of the three realities stick out to you the most? Why?
   1. Knowing He would die, Knowing He would be betrayed, Knowing we wouldn’t follow perfectly
3. What does humility mean to you? Humility: less of you, more of others
4. Why does Jesus’ display of humility matter to us now?
5. Does knowing the attributes of God help you understand Him more? Why or why not?