



PWOC

Protestant Women of the Chapel

WORKSHOP: Life "On Mission": A *Servant Lifestyle*

by Julie McCammon, *with the assistance and inspiration of the Women of Influence class at Fort Leavenworth*

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

RELEVANCE: Jesus Christ- from God, fully God, Creator, Sustainer, Master of the Universe- revealed Himself to humanity as *Servant*. So important was this concept of servanthood, that He gave His disciples an illustrated lesson with the bowl and the towel for twelve sets of dirty feet on the very night He was betrayed. It was as if Jesus was saying, "This you must remember above all else." Oh how we need to remember! Life, leadership, and relationships become so much less than they could be when we forget to serve. A life "on mission," attuned to the marching orders of Jesus is such a rich way to live and lead. It allows those around us to see Jesus; there is no higher calling.

1. Who Jesus Is (5-10 minutes)

- Jesus says, "...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave- just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:26b-27).
- Colossians 1:15-20 (NIV):
He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.



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ACTIVITY 1: Who Jesus Is

You will be working in a group of 3-4 people, using one of the passages below (one will be assigned to you). Read through your passage. Use the chart below to write down words or phrases that describe **Who Jesus Is**. Stay on the left side of your chart only. Your group will have the chance to share answers to contribute to the class chart.

- Isaiah 9:1-7 *To us a Child is born (Messianic passage)*
- Philippians 2:1-11 *Imitating Christ's Humility*
- Colossians 2:6-15 *Spiritual Fullness in Christ*
- Hebrews 1:1-9 *The Supremacy of God's Son*
- Revelation 1:1-8 *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*
- Revelation 22:12-16 *The Return of Jesus Christ*

Who Jesus Is	How Jesus Acted/Interacted



2. How Jesus Acted/Interacted

- John 13:1-17 (NIV) *It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, He now showed them the full extent of His love. The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God, so He got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around His waist. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around Him.*

He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus replied, 'You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 'No,' said Peter, 'you shall never wash my feet.'

Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.'

'Then, Lord,' Simon Peter replied, 'not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!' Jesus answered, 'A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.' For He knew who was going to betray Him, and that was why He said not every one was clean.

When He had finished washing their feet, He put on His clothes and returned to His place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' He asked them. 'You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

ACTIVITY 2:

Get back in your same group of 3-4. One of the passages below will be assigned to you. Read through your passage. Use the right side of your chart to write down words or phrases that describe **How Jesus Acted/Interacted** with the people in your story. Your group will have the chance to share answers to contribute to the class chart.

- Matthew 14:14-21 *Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand*
- Mark 14:1-9 *Jesus Anointed at Bethany*
- Luke 8:40-48 *The Woman with the Issue of Blood*
- Luke 13:10-17 *A Crippled Woman Healed on the Sabbath*
- Luke 19:1-9 *Zacchaeus the Tax Collector*
- John 4:1-26 *Jesus and the Samaritan Woman*
- John 8:2-11 *The Woman Caught in Adultery*



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3. Life "On Mission"- Nudges, Divine Appointments, Dirty Jobs

Why did Jesus act the way He did? What was His driving force? Listen to Jesus' own words:

- *My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work. –John 4:34*
- *By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but Him who sent me. –John 5:30*
- *For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me. –John 6:38*
- *...the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me... -John 14:31*

Jesus was "on mission," seeking only to do the will of the Father. Everything He did, everything He said, everywhere He went, everyone He touched, was all according to His Father's will. As the ultimate servant, Jesus did the bidding of His master, His Father. He invites us into this life *on mission*.

- *If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. –John 15:10-13*

This is upside down, counter cultural- we struggle to grasp this concept. We don't want to be "the new guy" on stinky feet duty. If we can get past our culture, our pride, and self-centeredness, we can move into an arena of life that is Spirit-led, full of purpose and, yes, joy!

- Nudges
- Divine appointments
- Dirty jobs

The work we do is only our love for Jesus in action. If we pray the work...if we do it to Jesus, if we do it for Jesus, if we do it with Jesus...that's what makes us content.

-Mother Teresa

Your obedient place is your happy place. –Beth Moore



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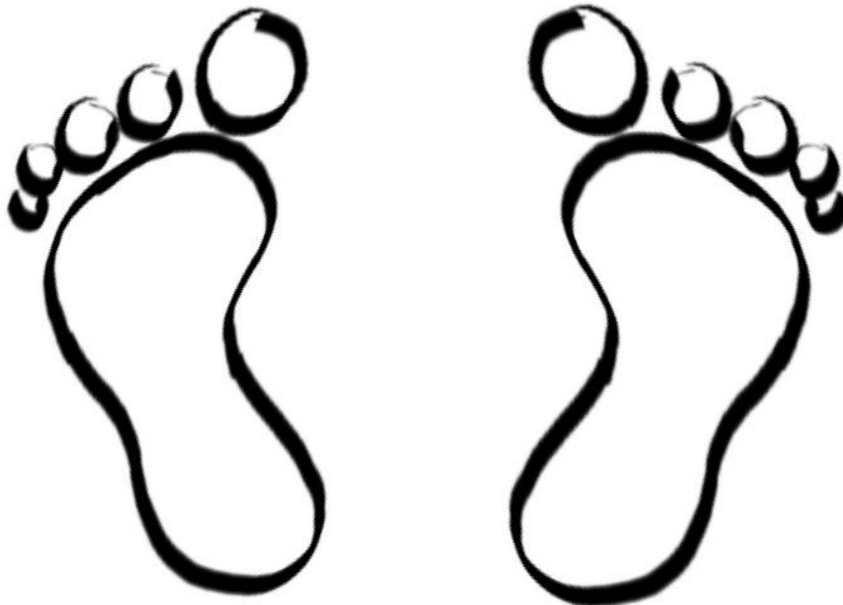
ACTIVITY 3:

Get back in your group of 3-4 and take a few moments to list the various roles, or areas of service in your life- include relationships like *wife, sister, friend...* as well as jobs (formal or informal, paid or volunteer) Discuss these questions with your group:

- My roles:
- How might God be calling you to live a life "on mission" within your various roles? Do some of your roles feel small, unnoticed, insignificant? Are you willing to invite Jesus there?
- Do you have a role that seems important, noticed, elevated? Are you willing to invite Jesus there?
- Are you willing to do what God calls you to do, one minute, one situation at a time? Are you ready to live your life "on mission?"

APPLY IT TO LIFE:

How will you walk this out? Use a footprint below to write down one way to apply this to your life this week. Add a meaningful Scripture to your footprint if you'd like. Take a couple minutes to do this and then we'll close in prayer.



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