



Daily Reflections

March 29, 2018

Scripture

John 13: 1-15

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father.

He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.

The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over.

So, during supper,

fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God,

he rose from supper and took off his outer garments.

He took a towel and tied it around his waist.

Then he poured water into a basin

and began to wash the disciples' feet

and dry them with the towel around his waist.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him,

"Master, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus answered and said to him,

"What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later."

Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet."

Jesus answered him,

"Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me."

Simon Peter said to him,

"Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."

Jesus said to him,
"Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed,
for he is clean all over;
so you are clean, but not all."
For he knew who would betray him;
for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."
So when he had washed their feet
and put his garments back on and reclined at table again,
he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you?
You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am.
If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet,
you ought to wash one another's feet.
I have given you a model to follow,
so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

Our Scripture Reflection

Peter had a lot of growing up to do as the result of his behavior at the Foot Washing scene. Why was he so reluctant to let Jesus wash his feet? Because Jesus was the Master and Masters were never permitted to do such a humbling act. Peter knew he was in a position to perhaps become the Master some day. Jesus' gesture to Peter implied that Peter would have to do the same to others. He wasn't ready for that! He wasn't humble enough yet but he would get there in time...the hard way.

Food for your Journey

"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." What if you wore these qualities every time your spouse failed or was hurting? I think we would see more healed marriages. Instead, we harden our hearts when we are hurt or offended.

I was talking to a friend who had offended his wife in a relatively minor way. To her, it was not minor at all. As a result, she did not speak to him for several days. Finally he asked her when she might forgive him: "Will it be next month? Before Christmas? Just let me know so I can get ready," he quipped. Soon she started laughing, and things were fine again once she saw how unnecessary her hard heart was.

Hardness of heart — not failure — is the true relationship killer.

—Henry Cloud, “Blessed are the tenderhearted,” Physician Magazine,
March-April 2000, Family.org.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I have so much to learn from You. I need Your Grace so that I can become humble enough to learn from You and loving enough to live like You. Help me, Lord. Amen