

## John 13: 1

**Topic:** a) Loved them till the end.

a) Marci and Leonna were friends. They loved being with each other. They promised that they would love each other as friends till the end. Then one day Marci bought a new pair of sneakers. They were red with rainbows all over them. She wore them to school. When Leonna saw Marci's sneakers she said (for some reason even she didn't know why) "Those are really stupid looking sneakers!" Marci got angry and said some unkind things to Leonna. They both stomped off and yelled, "I'm not your friend anymore!"

- Did they love each other till the end?

a) Once there were two mice. Their names were Sloopy and Sloppy. Sloopy and Sloppy shared everything they had with each other and promised to be friends forever. One day Sloopy found a huge hunk of cheese on the kitchen floor. He grabbed it, ran back to the mouse hole and instead of sharing it with Sloppy he decided to eat the whole thing himself. Sloppy found out about this and stormed into the mouse hole very angrily. "That's it!" he yelled, "Our friendship is over!"

- Did they love till the end?
- Will Jesus love you till the end? (No...He will love you beyond the end)
- What if you do something wrong? (He will never stop loving you)

## John 13: 2

**Topic:** a) Why not sin and do evil?

- It's easy (Real easy)
- We sometimes feel like doing it.
- Sin does feel good (for a little while anyway)
- People seem to get away with it.
- Why not sin?

## John 13: 3-16

**Topic:** a) Why did they wash feet?

a) It was very hot in Israel where Jesus lived (Still is). When someone had a special guest over to their house they would want to show how much they cared for them so they would wash their feet. Usually a servant would do the foot washing. This would cool the guest off and make them feel better.

**Topic:** b) Do we have to let Jesus take care of us?

b) There were some people in the desert. They were very thirsty wandering around trying to find water. Finally they found a well. It was the only one in the whole desert. The people started drinking the water. One person stood back and said “Do I have to drink this water?”

- No he doesn’t have to but should he want to? Why?
- You don’t have to let Jesus give you life but should you want Him to?

b) Jeff’s father has a job for him. Their back yard is full of rocks. Most of them were really big and there are a lot of them. Jeff walked out back and looked at all the rocks. It seemed impossible that he would be able to clear all these rocks out. Jeff’s neighbor had a bulldozer that could scoop the rocks out in a couple of minutes. He saw Jeff and asked if he could help move the rocks with his bulldozer. Jeff went in and asked his dad “Do I have to let him help me clear the rocks?”

- No he doesn’t have to let his neighbor help but should he? Why?
- You don’t have to pray that Jesus will help you with your problems but should you want Him to? Why?

b) Sarah went swimming in the ocean. She wasn’t a very good swimmer and went out farther than she should have. Before long she realized that the current was moving her out into the ocean farther and farther. She wasn’t a good enough swimmer to swim back to shore. She was starting to go underwater when the lifeguard saw her struggling. He jumped in the water and swam out to save her. Sarah saw him coming. She thought, “Do I have to let this life guard save me?”

- No she doesn’t but should she want him to? Why?
- You don’t have to let Jesus take care of you but should you want Him to? Why?

**Topic:** c) Why did Jesus do this?

c) Why did Jesus wash his friends’ feet?

- Because God hates dirty feet?
- Because He wanted to make them feel bad about not wearing shoes?
- Because they were better than Him so He had to do it?
- Because they ordered Him to wash their feet?
- Why then would the creator of the universe wash someone’s feet?
- Jesus is our master. Are we greater than He? If He served should we serve one another?
- He even washed Judas’ feet.

**Topic:** d) How can we wash each others feet?

d) One day when Janey went to school she saw someone she had never seen before. She was a girl in Janey’s class. Her name was Elizabeth and she was new. Janey saw that she sat by herself in class and nobody was talking to her. She saw that Elizabeth looked kind of lonely as she walked down the halls all by herself. When Janey went to lunch she saw Elizabeth sitting at a table all by herself. Janey walked over and said, “Hi, I’m Janey can I sit with you?” Elizabeth looked up with a big smile. She was hoping and praying that she would be able to make a friend in her new school.

- Is Janey a foot washer?

d) There are two boys in art class, Rick and Nate. Rick loves art. He draws and paints every chance he gets. Nate isn't a very good artist. One day Rick finished a painting in art class. Nate walked over to look at it. Rick looked up to see what Nate thought of it. Nate said, "Rick, that painting is really, really good. I like it!" Rick smiled when he heard that. Nate told Rick that he liked his painting because it really was good and he really did like it but that's not the only reason he did it. He said that about Rick's painting because he knew it would make Rick happy.

- Is Nate a foot washer?

d) Sarah's mom came home from work one night very tired. She lay down on the couch. Sarah saw her on the couch looking very tired. Sarah ran upstairs, got a pillow and blanket and ran back downstairs. She ran to the couch, put the pillow under her mom's head and tucked her in with the nice warm blanket. Her mom had a big smile.

- Is Sarah a foot washer?
- There are two commandments...Love God, Love people.

## John 13: 17

**Topic:** a) Knowing and doing.

a) William is going skydiving. He is going to jump out of a plane way high in the sky with a parachute. The man flying the plane gave him some instructions. He said, "After you jump out of the plane, count to ten and pull this cord. It will make your parachute open up."

- Is this an important thing to know?
- There is something even more important to know even if we're not jumping out of a plane...the true things about God.
- How do we know what God wants us to do? (The Bible)

a) So William is ready to jump out of the plane. He has heard and understood the instructions about counting to ten and pulling the cord to open his parachute. The pilot gives him the signal and he jumps out of the plane. He is sailing through the air towards the ground. The only problem is he doesn't do what the man flying the plane told him to. He doesn't count to ten and he doesn't pull the cord on his parachute.

- Is this going to be a fun day?
- Did he hear? Did he know what to do?
- Did he do it?
- Have we heard? Do we know?
- Are we doing what God wants?

**Topic:** b) How do we do?

b) There is another boy named Russell who is going to jump out of the plane. The pilot tells him the same thing...jump, count to ten and then pull the cord to make your parachute come out. He listens, jumps out of the plane, sails through the air towards the ground, counts to ten, pulls the cord, his parachute comes out and he floats safely to the ground.

- Why did he pull the cord? (He wanted to)
- The first step in doing what you know God wants you to do is to want to do it.

b) There's another boy who is going to jump out of the plane. His name is Harold. Harold is told the same things about jumping and pulling the cord to his parachute. Harold hears and he wants to do this. He jumps out of the plane, counts to ten and reaches for his cord but there's a real problem...he can't reach it. He tries and tries but he just can't reach the cord to open his parachute. Harold is hurling towards the ground. He yells. Another person who has jumped out of the plane hears Harold screaming. He moves his arms, floats over to Harold, grabs him, pulls his cord and they both float safely to earth together.

- The second step in doing what you know God wants you to do is knowing that you can't do it. You need Jesus to save you.

## John 13: 18

**Topic:** a) The Lord knows those who are His.

a) There is a baseball team at school. All the kids want to try out for it. If the coach picks you then you're on the team. The kids who tried out for the team did really well. They could hit and catch and throw really far. There was one boy named Edward who really wanted to be on the team. He loved playing baseball. He tried out but he wasn't having a very good day. He kept striking out and dropping the ball. He even tripped while running around the bases. He knew he wasn't going to be picked for the team. The coach came over to give Edward the news. "Edward" he said, "You are on the team." Edward was surprised. "But coach I did lousy, I really messed up!" "I know" said coach, "But I know you really want to be on the team."

- Some people would say, "Jesus I can't be with you. I really messed up."
- Jesus would say, "I know but I know you want to be with me."
- Do you want to be with Jesus? Then you will.

## John 13: 19

**Topic:** a) The Bible tells the future.

a) There is a man whose water pipes in his basement are making a noise. He calls a plumber. The plumber comes over, looks at the mans pipes and tells him that if he doesn't get them fixed they are going to break and he will have water all over his house. The man doesn't believe the plumber and doesn't fix them. The pipes break and now he had water all over his house.

- Does he believe the plumber now? Why? (He said what was going to happen and it did happen)

a) Some kids are playing baseball. A girl named Marci says that she is going to hit the ball over the fence. The other kids don't believe her because the fence is really far away. Marci gets up to bat. The pitcher throws the ball. Marci swings and she hits it way over the fence.

- Do they believe Marci now? Why? (She said she was going to do it and she did it)
- The Bible tells us what is going to happen. Should we believe what it says? Why? (Because it's the word of God and everything the Bible said **was** going to happen...did. Everything it says **is** going to happen...will.)

## John 13: 20

**Topic:** a) Receiving from God

a) 1 Kings 17: 8-16....Elijah and the widow...she received the one God sent and she received a miracle from God.

## John 13: 21-22

**Topic:** a) It's sad when people let you down.

a) Maggie and Phoebe are friends. They are best friends. They hang out at school together. They go over to each others house. They play together on weekends. One day Maggie came into school and saw Phoebe walking and talking with another girl named Wendy. The girls walked over to Maggie. "I'm not your best friend anymore" said Phoebe, "From now on I am going to be Wendy's best friend so I can't play with you anymore." Maggie walked away very sad.

- Sometimes people might do things that hurt us.

**Topic:** b) Jesus will never let you down.

b) John 8: 1-12....Everyone else let her down. Did Jesus?

b) Luke 8: 43-48....the woman who touched His robe. Doctors let her down. Did Jesus?

b) Luke 23: 39-43....the criminal on the cross. Nobody wanted anything to do with him. Did Jesus let him down?

Jesus never fails to do good.

**Topic:** c) What about when we let Jesus down?

c) Susan is on the baseball team. Her dad is the coach. It's the day of the big game. The score is tied, the bases are loaded. Susan is the last one up. If she gets a hit, the team wins. If she strikes out, the team loses. Susan steps up to the plate with her bat. The pitcher throws, she swings..."Strike one!" the pitcher throws again, she swings..."Strike two!" The pitcher throws again as fast as he can. Susan sees the ball coming she swings the bat as hard as she can

and....”Strike three, you’re out!!” The crowd moans, “Oh no we lost!” Susan feels very bad that she struck out. She walks up to her dad and says, “Well I guess I’m off the team. I let everyone down.” Her dad put his arm around her. “Susan” he said “It’s nice to win a game but it doesn’t matter that you struck out. You will always be on the team because I love you.”

- Jesus never stops loving us no matter what. Nothing can take us away from the love of God.

c) There was a man who had some jobs that needed doing. He hired a boy named James to do the work. James was a very good worker. He did everything the boss asked him to do and he did a good job. He even did some things on his own just to help the boss. One day the boss was walking through and saw James working hard. He turned and said, “I love that kid.”

- Why does he love him? (Because of what James does)
- If James was a lousy worker would the boss still say that he loved him?
- God does not love you because of what you do. He just loves you. God is love.

## John 13: 23

**Topic:** a) All are loved but one is closer.

a) There was a mom who had five kids. Mom loved every one of them the same but there was one of her kids, the youngest, a little girl, whose name was Mandy who was always with mom. The other kids liked to play outside with their friends. Mandy like to stay with mom. The other kids liked to go to the movies. Mandy liked to stay with her mom and learn how to cook and do things. The other kids would watch television. Mandy liked to sit on moms lap and talk to her. Mom loved all the kids the same but she was closest to one.

a) Will was on the baseball team. Will always seemed to be with the coach. While the other kids were ot running around the field, Will would be asking the coach questions. The other kids would be wrestling and goofing around, Will would ask the coach to show him how to swing the bat so he could become a better player. Wherever the coach was, there was Will. All the kids were on the same team. The coach liked and treated all the kids the same but Will was closer to the coach than the others were.

- Jesus loves everyone the same but there are some who are close to Him.
- John was closer to Jesus because that’s where he wanted to be. Where do you want to be?

## John13: 23

**Topic:** a) Could I...?

a) The kids are taking turns climbing up in a tree and daring each other to walk out on a limb. The first kid takes the dare, walks out on the limb...it breaks and he falls to the ground. The second kid is dared to walk out on another limb. This kid stops and thinks..."Is there a chance I might fall?" Is there?

a) Sandy's teacher has a small glass dinosaur on her desk. The rule is that you can look at it but you can't touch it. Sandy loves this little glass dinosaur. She would love just to hold it and play with it for a while. One day all the kids were in the cafeteria for lunch. Sandy forgot something in the room and ran back to get it. No one saw her. Once in the room she ran up to teachers desk and looked at the glass dinosaur. Then she looked around to see if anyone was watching her. She picked up the dinosaur and started playing with it. Suddenly a terrible thing happened. The dinosaur slipped out of her hand, fell on the floor and shattered in a hundred pieces. Sandy was scared. She ran out of the room and back to the cafeteria. No one had seen her leave or come back. When the teacher got back to the room she was very sad to see her glass dinosaur broken on the floor. She asked every one of the kids if they had broken the dinosaur. Finally she asked Sandy if she had done it. Sandy looked down at the floor and said, "No, I didn't break it."

- Is there any chance that you could ever do something like this?

**Topic:** b) What keeps us?

b) There was a boy who saved enough money to buy a hot air balloon. It was really big and had a little basket on the bottom to ride in. The boy jumped in the basket ready to take off for a ride high up in the sky. Above the boys head was a lever. If you pulled this lever it would make a flame shoot up which would make the gas inside the balloon warm up and the balloon would go up higher and higher. The boy pulled the lever. The balloon started to rise high above the earth. Suddenly it started to come down if was going down lower and lower and it was headed for some telephone wires. What should the boy do?

- God is like the flame that keeps us up.
- He lets us know by His Spirit when we're doing wrong.
- He gives strength to those who want to say no to badness.

b) Once there was a bird's nest in a tree. Inside that nest was a baby bird. It was winter. Outside it was so cold that you could freeze to death. The baby bird didn't even have any feathers yet it was safe. The mother had lined the nest with soft feathers that kept the heat in and were cozy for the little bird to sleep on. Then the mother bird sat on the nest. Outside it was freezing cold. Inside that nest it was warm and cozy. That little bird didn't want to leave the nest.

- Gods love is like that nest. We don't want to leave.
- If we do, life gets cold and we run back to Him.

**Topic:** c) Why do we sin?

c) There was once a fish in the water. One day a mean lobster came along. The lobster told the fish what life was like on the land. He told the fish that it was so much better on land than in the water. The fish listened to the lobster. He really wanted to leave the water and live on land. The mean lobster told him that he should look for a boat on the water, try to jump into it and then the people would take him to land where he would be happy. The fish swam around looking for a boat. Suddenly he saw one. He swam to the surface as fast as he could, jumped out of the water and into the boat. The fisherman was very happy to see a fish jump into his boat.

- The fish left the water for what he thought was going to be better. Was it?
- We sin when we leave God for what we think will be better.

c) *Genesis 3: 4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.*

*5 "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

*6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.*

**Topic:** d) What brings us back when we sin?

d) Luke 15: 11-24...The prodigal son.

- He thought there was something better than his home.
- If we leave Jesus for something else...it will turn into "pig food."
- If we fall we can leave the sadness and come back to Jesus.

## **John 13: 24-26**

**Topic:** a) Refusing the love of Christ.

a) Jesus loved Judas. Judas turned away.

a) Once there was a bird who was born in a cave. The bird had never been outside, had never seen the sunlight. Inside the cave it was cold and dark. One day the bird was stumbling around in the cave when she saw a light at the far end of the cave. She moved closer and closer and saw that it was a little hole that led to the outside. She crawled through the hole and came out of the cave. For the first time the bird saw the sunshine, the flowers, trees and sky. She saw that there were other birds flying in the bright blue sky. The bird saw how beautiful everything was on the outside so she turned around, went back in the hole and lived in the dark, cold cave for the rest of her life.

- Does this make any sense?



- That bird is like people who refuse Gods love.

## John 13: 27-29

**Topic:** a) covered with light or darkness?

a) You walk into an elevator. There are two buttons, one red, one blue. If you push the red one the elevator will take you higher and higher. It will take you so high that when you step out you will be able to see the entire universe. The blue button will make the elevator go down. It will go down further and further. It will get darker and colder. It will take you down so far that you will step out into total and forever darkness. Which button would you push?

- Which will you choose? The light of the Lord or the darkness of sin?

## John 13: 30

**Topic:** a) The night is almost over.

a) Tomorrow is Ted's birthday. The only problem is that tomorrow isn't here yet. Ted can't wait. He is going to have a party with all his friends, get presents, play games and eat a lot of junk food. But now Ted has to go to bed and wait for tomorrow to come. Ted lay in bed looking at his clock. He couldn't wait for this night to be over. The hands on the clock moved really slow. Ted kept calling into his parents, "Is it morning yet?" "Go to sleep!" they yelled. Ted looked out the window hoping to see the sun coming up but it just seemed to be getting darker and darker. "Why can't this night go faster? I want my birthday to come!" Finally Ted fell asleep. When he opened his eyes the sunshine was streaming into his room. Ted jumped out of bed with a big smile. It was time for the party to begin!

- We're waiting for the real party to start.
- We're waiting for Jesus to return for us.
- *Romans 13: 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.*

## John 13: 31-32

**Topic:** a) How good is Jesus?

a) Next door to you lives the meanest man in the world. He never smiles and whenever he sees you he yells mean things. He stole your dog. One day you were walking by his house, he grabbed you and started beating you up. He snuck into your house and stole all your food. He stole your car. He came into your house once and ate your goldfish. He threw your hamster out the window. He burnt your house down. Then one day there was a flood. The water rushed

through and swept everything away. The water has swept you away but you're safe because you have a life jacket. It's a good thing too because you can't swim and would drown if you didn't have the life jacket. Suddenly you see the mean man being swept away by the water. He can't swim either. As he goes past you he yells at you to give him your life jacket. If you do you will drown.

- Would you die for this man?
- Jesus did.
- If you knew how good God really is and how much He really loves you...you would explode. That's one of the reasons we're going to get new bodies in heaven.

John 13: 33-35

Topic: a) What are we supposed to do while we wait? (Be like Him)

a) There was a king known as the blue king. He was called this because he was blue and everything in his castle was blue. His castle was very big and beautiful. It was also filled with many, many fun things. The king loved his people and wanted them to live in his beautiful castle. The people wanted to because they lived in dark, cold houses. The only problem was that in order to live in the king's blue castle you had to be blue and none of the people were blue. One day the blue king came out of his castle. He called all the people and said that anyone who wanted to live in his castle could. Then he touched all the ones who wanted to live in the castle. He told them to wait and he would be back to take them into the castle. Then a funny thing happened. All the people that the king touched started to slowly turn blue.

- What are the people supposed to be doing while they wait for the blue king to come back for them? (they're supposed to turn blue)
- Our king who is perfect love is coming back for us.
- What are we supposed to be doing while we wait for him? (Becoming like our king)
- How did the people start becoming like their blue king? (He touched them)
- There are people who want to be like Jesus. God touches them with His love and they become like Him.

## John 13: 37-38

Topic: a) What is the only reason we go to heaven?

a) Once there was a chip monk who wanted to fly. He tried jumping up and down. He tried jumping out of trees but no matter what he did, he couldn't fly. Then one day a huge eagle heard that the chip monk wanted to fly. The eagle swooped down from the sky, picked up the little chip monk, put him on his back and soared up through the clouds.

- What was the only reason the chip monk flew? (The eagle took him)

a) Once there was a fish who wanted to ride on a boat. He would swim to the surface and watch the people racing around in their boats and wish that he could ride in one someday. There was a boy who had a little row boat. One day the fish popped his head out of the water and asked the boy to give him a ride in his boat. The boy got a glass of water, put the fish in the glass, put the glass on the bench in the boat and gave the fish a ride around the lake. The fish was very happy.

- What was the only reason the fish got to ride in a boat? (The boy took him)

a) Once there was a worm who spent his entire life crawling around on the ground. The worm wished that just once he could be taller than anything around him. One day a girl was walking through the woods and saw the worm. They started talking and the worm told her how much he wanted to be tall. The girl put the worm in her pocket. She took him to the city. There in the city was the worlds tallest building. They got on the elevator and went to the top. The girl put the worm on the ledge and he looked around. For once he was taller than anything else.

- What is the only reason the worm got to be taller than anything else? (The girl took him)

a) There are a lot of people in heaven right now.

- What is the only reason they're there?
- What is the only reason you will be there?