
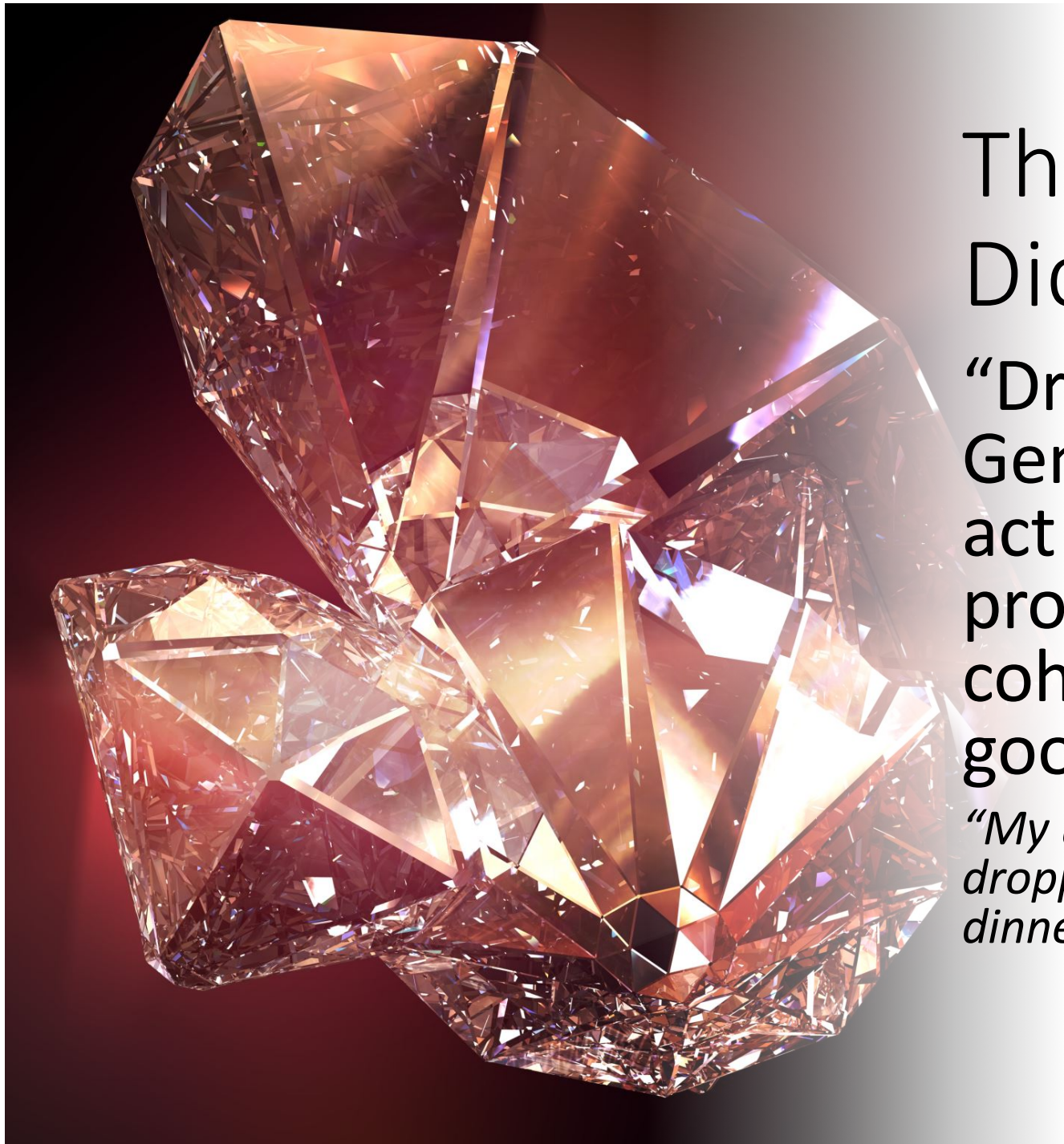




# Dropping Gems On Dirty Feet!

John 13:12-17





# The Urban Dictionary

“Dropping Gems”-The act of providing coherently good advice

*“My uncle was dropping gems at dinner last night”*

## Observations

- **This story is one of the more pivotal stories in Jesus' life**
- **It occurred the night before Jesus was betrayed and crucified. Luke 22:8 says He had sent Peter and John ahead of them to prepare for their meal together**
- **This was an intense night in and of itself (His last free night on the earth and He knew it!).**
- **Jesus' public ministry was now over**
- **In this story He turns His full attention to His disciples**

# Observations

- Remember that in their culture, one of the most demeaning tasks was to be the one responsible for *washing the feet of the guests of the house after they entered.*
- It showed where you stood in “the pecking order.” It was a task reserved for the lowest slave of the house





## Observations

- **People did most of their travelling by foot, wearing sandals and riding camels or donkeys on dusty roads cluttered with animal dung**
- **So, you can imagine the status of their feet when they entered someone's house as their guest**



- **As Jesus and the disciples enter the room (the upper room of the house, Luke 22) they notice that the water and the basin are already in place for usage, Luke 22:12**
- **They don't see a slave there to wash feet. The owner of the house hasn't designated anyone for it. Luke 22:9-13**
- **None of the disciples initiate washing the other's feet, not even Jesus' feet; after all, that act defines where you are in "the social pecking order!" (Certainly not Peter, James, or John)**

## Observations



# #1 What Jesus Did! (He Taught By Example)

- **John 13:4 says that Jesus got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing, wrapped a towel around His waist, poured water in the basin and began to wash the disciples' feet (Example, not a Lecture)**
- **Getting up from the meal means that He left His "comfort zone." He made His body do something it may not have wanted to do (he'd just finished eating). 1 Cor. 9:27**



- He also took off His outer garment. To serve others we usually have to lay something aside.
  - If I'm going to add a service for someone, I may have to subtract something that I was going to do for myself.
- Matthew 16:24**

# Observations





## #2 What Jesus Knew

(Clearly This Was Not Necessary for the Story to be Told, But Was Impressive to John)

- He knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world
- He knew that the main reason that He came to the world was rapidly approaching (to die for our sins)
- He knew that the pain and agony of the cross was imminent
- Question: If you knew that you would die a painful death tomorrow, what would you focus on today? (your finality)
- I think that John's gospel wants us to see that when we would naturally tend to focus on ourselves (and want others to), Jesus was focused on His disciples
- John 18:8 says that when He was arrested, He wanted the disciples to be let go

# Jesus Knew Who He Was!

(This is impressive to John)

## John 13:3

*“Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God ....”*

- All of His stature didn't engender arrogance or pride in His heart, Philippians 2:5-9
- How much honor can I take before becoming conceited?
- Jesus already knew who He was and was “Secure in His Own Identity,” he could bow to what others thought was the lowest point of service (wash feet)
- Insecure people think that what they do defines them as something less or more than others. Unfortunately this definition can govern our service to God (Judge/Elder Steverson washing dishes for church functions)

# Jesus Also Knew Who Would Betray Him!

- All 12 of the disciples were at the last supper, even Judas (full of hypocrisy, and deceit; the ultimate backstabber)
- And Jesus knew it. John 13:11 says, *“For He knew who was going to betray Him.”*
- Notice that Judas was treated no differently than the rest
- In fact, he was given an opportunity to repent, and Jesus made it *“personal.”* Peter asked who would betray Him:

John 13:26, Jesus answered, *It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.* Then dipping the piece of bread, He gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. As soon as Jesus took the bread, Satan entered into him.”

Question:

***What Do We Learn From Jesus Concerning How to Treat Our Betrayers and Backstabbers?***

**1) There is no apparent bitterness, resentment or anger shown to Judas by Jesus**

**2) There is the “openness” that Jesus shows by letting Judas know that HE was aware of his wrongdoing, and giving him a chance to repent of it**

**3) Some will become embarrassed when their evil against you is discovered and apologize. Others like Judas will not, but their consequences will not be your responsibility**

**4) Remember their guilt and shame when Joseph’s brothers discovered that the brother they had sold into slavery was now the second most powerful man in the known world and that he had kept them alive. What can’t God do? Psalms 118:22**



## #3 What Jesus Taught

- Jesus asked His disciples a question once He had finished with His example, *“Do you understand what I have done for you?”*
- Why the question? Because the lesson goes way beyond getting their feet washed or even getting their needs met
- Jesus did come into the world to love us and to meet our needs, Philippians 4:19, *“But my God shall supply all of your needs through the riches of His glory by Christ Jesus.”*
- But if my relationship with God is only about me “getting my needs met,” I’ve missed the point of His coming
- If the church is just a vehicle through which I can get what I want through a group of “nice” people, I’m missing something

## Jesus' Explanation, John 13:14-15

*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 think that the greatest tragedy in this world is to die without Christ
- I think that the second greatest tragedy is to live with Christ's grace and mercy in *your* life and never translate that into service toward other people
- There are some riches (blessings) in Jesus Christ that can only be discovered by your service to others (by distributing blessings and not collecting them)
- Jesus did say, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."*



***So Drop  
Your Gems  
On Dirty  
Feet!***



# The Plan of Salvation

**Hear the Gospel**

**Acts 15:7**

**Believe the Gospel**

**Acts 15:7**

**Repent of Sins**

**Acts 17:30**

**Confess Christ**

**Acts 8:37**

**Be Baptized**

**Acts 8:38**

