

Jesus washes the disciples' feet



The story of how Jesus washed the feet of the disciples is a good one if you are talking to very young children about how everybody in the world needs to help each other.

In the story children learn that God wants them to help others.

Before the story

Fill a tray or bucket with just a little bit of soapy water. Give your child several small toys that have feet - they can be human or animals as long as they are plastic. Let them wash the feet of the toys. As they are washing feet tell the story from John 13:1-17. You can tell in your own words or from the text below.

One day after dinner with his friends Jesus got a bucket of water. He told his friends that he wanted to wash their feet! When Jesus was alive it was important to wash people's feet because they wore sandals and their feet would get very dusty. You are wearing socks so your feet stay a little cleaner.



Jesus' friends were very surprised. 'But you are a king!' they said. 'You are too important to do the job of a servant. You are much too important.'

But Jesus just carried on and gently washed and dried the feet of all his friends.

Jesus did this to teach his friends a lesson. You should help people. Everyone should be a servant and help the people around them.

Jesus was the very greatest person to ever live and He wasn't too good to wash other's feet. Now we don't often wash people's feet, but what are some other ways that you can help people? Talk to your child about how they can help others in practical ways.



Foot Washing Art

Use this active craft project to help your child learn about Jesus washing the disciples' feet. Wrap a square of bubble wrap around one or both of feet; secure the bubble wrap with tape at the top of each foot.

Sponge brush the bottoms of their wrapped feet with washable blue paint. Let your child "stamp" their feet onto large sheets of paper to make bubbles.

Ask:

- **Where are places we see bubbles?**
- **Why do you think Jesus washed his friends' dirty feet?**