

## The Power of Touch

Psalm 41:9-13 ❖ John 13:1-34

“Every person you meet is dealing with some kind of affliction.  
Be kind.”

(Presbyterian minister Rev. John Watson, 1897)

### Be Kind

HHPC member Janice Linder recently told me about a time when someone reached out her \_\_\_\_\_ to her when she noticed that she was alone and crying ...

What did that Christian lady do right?

She \_\_\_\_\_.

Then she \_\_\_\_\_

She \_\_\_\_\_

Next she \_\_\_\_\_

Finally she \_\_\_\_\_

Christians are called to action, to put into \_\_\_\_\_ the kind of love that focuses on what other people need.

Our example is \_\_\_\_\_. On the night before He went to the cross, He told His disciples, “A new \_\_\_\_\_ I give you: Love one another. As \_\_\_\_\_ have loved you, so you must love one another. By \_\_\_\_\_ all men will know that you are My disciples, \_\_\_\_\_ you love one another” (John 13:34-35).

“Maundy” comes from the Latin word “mandatum,” which is translated as “\_\_\_\_\_” or “commandment.” Maundy Thursday is so named, because Jesus gave a \_\_\_\_\_ mandate that evening for His disciples to love each other in the manner He was about to \_\_\_\_\_ - sacrificially.

### A Ceremonial Bath

“It was just before the \_\_\_\_\_ Feast. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the \_\_\_\_\_. Having loved His own who were in the world, He now \_\_\_\_\_ them the full extent of His love” (John 13:1).

“\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing, wrapped a towel around His waist, poured \_\_\_\_\_ into a basin and began to wash His disciples’ \_\_\_\_\_, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around Him” (vv. 4-5).

It is a very personal thing to have someone touch your \_\_\_\_\_, much less wash them.

Peter \_\_\_\_\_, but finally consented. He was beginning to understand that he needed Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_.

Judas did \_\_\_\_\_ protest. He was about to “lift his heel against his friend” (Psalm 41:9/John 13:18). He wanted to touch 30 pieces of \_\_\_\_\_.

What about us? Are we beginning to understand the power of Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_?

After Jesus washed and dried their feet, He next \_\_\_\_\_ the Passover \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, transforming that Jewish feast into the sacramental meal we call the Lord’s Supper.

Until Jesus returns, we are to regularly commemorate His \_\_\_\_\_ death on the cross - giving thanks for the forgiveness of our sins and the promise of eternal life in heaven.

Until Jesus returns, we are to regularly love one another \_\_\_\_\_ - even and especially when it’s hard.

### Takeaway

In the Lord’s Supper, we remember the One who ...

Noticed our \_\_\_\_\_ but didn’t turn away,

Cared for our \_\_\_\_\_,

Touched the \_\_\_\_\_ parts of our lives,

Reached out His \_\_\_\_\_ and died  
in our place.

On this Maundy Thursday, Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ to us is to follow His example by loving others \_\_\_\_\_.

Who might Jesus be mandating you to show your \_\_\_\_\_?

Who might Jesus be mandating you to \_\_\_\_\_?

Who might Jesus be mandating you to \_\_\_\_\_?

