

Fabulous Feet!

Bible Story
Jesus washes the Disciples' Feet

Scripture
John 13:1-17

The Scene: the upper room
The Simple Setup: You'll need chairs so the three Disciples, Jesus, and Peter can be seated.
For Extra Impact: Use a real bowl and towel for Jesus instead of miming it. Have Water Kids wave strips of blue crepe paper over their feet and pretend to wash them as they say the poem. Also consider having them take off their shoes.

The Characters

- Disciple 1:** a guy or a girl—barefoot
Disciple 2: a guy or a girl—barefoot
Disciple 3: a guy or a girl—barefoot
Jesus: a guy
Peter: a guy—barefoot

Water Kids: kids willing to repeat the washing-foot poem while Jesus washes feet, and pretend to wash their own feet. They'll also wiggle their toes and shake off dusty feet on cue.

The Skit

After you've cast the three Disciples, Jesus, and Peter, form the rest of your children into a group and teach them the simple washing-foot poem.
As the skit begins, Peter and Jesus are sitting stage left. The three Disciples are sitting at center stage. The Water Kids sit stage right, on the floor.

- Disciple 1:** What a WEEK! Did you see the size of the crowds that came to Jerusalem, to celebrate the Passover? It was so cool when Jesus rode that donkey through the streets, with people waving palm branches and cheering. They all said Jesus was their king. What an exciting time! It was GREAT!
- Disciple 2:** Yeah, and now we're here in this room, waiting for the Passover meal to be served. I've always loved the Passover.
- Disciple 1:** Me, too. Since I was a little guy I've loved remembering how God saved his people from our enemies. It's a real blessing to spend this time with Jesus. I can't wait to get started.

Disciple 3: Yeah, but my feet are dirty.

Disciple 1: WHAT?

Disciple 3: I did a lot of walking today on dusty roads, and I'm wearing sandals. Usually a servant washes your feet before a big deal like Passover... but nobody's shown up. And my FEET are dirty!

Disciple 1: You complain too much.

(Jesus goes to first Disciple with pretend bowl and a towel.)

Disciple 1: Jesus, what are you doing?

Disciple 2: Is HE going to wash our feet?

Disciple 3: Isn't there a SERVANT to do it?



Start the "Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet" track on *The Humongous Book of Bible Skits for Children's Ministry CD (track 41)*. Set your CD player on "repeat" so the track repeats.

(Jesus mimes pouring water, washing Disciple 1's feet, and wipes the feet with towel.)

Water Kids: There is Jesus washing feet,

The King is on his knees!

He's serving his disciples,

As kindly as you please!

(Disciple 1 stands when Jesus is finished.)

Disciple 1: I felt a little embarrassed when Jesus knelt and washed my dirty feet. What was he DOING? This was JESUS! We should be serving HIM! I didn't feel worthy of having Jesus wash MY feet.

(Jesus mimes pouring water, washing Disciple 2's feet, and wipes the feet with towel.)

Water Kids: There is Jesus washing feet,
The King is on his knees!
He's serving his disciples,
As kindly as you please!

(Disciple 2 stands when Jesus is finished.)

Disciple 2: I was worried Jesus wouldn't WANT to wash MY feet. I forgot to wash them this morning. They were so SMELLY. I wondered if he'd scold me or make a scrunched-up face and pass me by. I was ASHAMED. But Jesus washed them until they were SPARKLING clean.

(Jesus mimes pouring water, washing Disciple 3's feet, and wipes the feet with towel.)

Water Kids: There is Jesus washing feet,
The King is on his knees!
He's serving his disciples,
As kindly as you please!

Disciple 3: I WANTED my feet to be washed. I'm so grateful Jesus cares about me. He showed it, too, by washing the dirt off my toes. He saw what I needed, and he wasn't too proud to help me. After Jesus washed my feet, he went to Simon Peter.

Peter: Lord, are you going to wash MY feet?

Jesus: You don't understand why right now, but later you will.

Disciple 2: Peter pulled back his feet and said:

Peter: NO, you're too important to wash MY FEET.

Jesus: Unless you do it, you will have no part of me.

Disciple 3: Peter didn't like to hear that. I think it scared Peter that maybe Jesus wouldn't want him. So Peter offered even more for Jesus to wash.

Peter: Then Lord, wash my HANDS and HEAD, too!

Jesus: If you've already had a bath, then you only need to wash what's dirty, YOUR FEET!

(Jesus mimes pouring water, washing Peter's feet, and wipes the feet with towel.)

Water Kids: There is Jesus washing feet,
The King is on his knees!
He's serving his disciples,
As kindly as you please!

Jesus: Do you disciples understand WHY I did that? You call me Lord and Teacher, and that's right. Now that I've served you by washing your feet, you need to serve each OTHER. A servant isn't greater than his master. If I can serve others, so can YOU!

Peter: Jesus washed MY FEET. He got down on his knees, rolled up his sleeves, took each foot and scrubbed off all the dirt. I could hardly BELIEVE it. I couldn't understand why he'd DO that. But I get it now. If Jesus can serve others, so can I.



To Talk About

- ◆ What if the leader of your country came to your house to wash your feet? That's how the disciples felt. What do you think Jesus was trying to teach them?
- ◆ The disciples probably felt humbled to have Jesus wash their feet. Describe a time when you felt humbled.
- ◆ Jesus showed us we can be a servant and help others. How do you help the people you know?

Topical Tie-Ins: Humility, Embarrassment, Serving Others