



LOVE LOCAL

THE JESUS WAY

Week
1

John 13:1-17 (NIV) Jesus washes the disciple's feet.

Read:

John 13: 1-17, especially verse 14-17

- ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.
- ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.
- ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.
- ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Discuss:

- Were you at a #imagine local event? Remind each other of the story of the Good Samaritan and what it means.
- Why do you think Jesus washed the feet of His disciples?
- If Jesus was on earth today in your community, what do you think he would have done to set an example of service?
- Think of 5 ways in which you can #love local and serve your community.

Pray: Reflect on your attitude and ask God's Spirit to help you be humble and willing to serve others.

Do: Think of one thing you can start doing today to help out at home.

Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)
Be the salt of the earth, lamp, city on the hill

Read:
Matthew 5:14-16

- ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.
¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.
¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Discuss:

- What is the difference between Tiktok or Instagram popularity and the kind of “attraction” Teodor talks about in the video?
- Tell of a time when you saw someone “shining the light of Jesus.”
- What are the things in your community that are spreading “darkness” or hopelessness?
- What are the main obstacles to you a “light of the world” or a “town built on a hill”?

Pray: Reflect on the things that bring “darkness” to your community and tell Jesus about them, asking Him to help you shine His light.

Do: How can you be a light through your words, actions, and decisions? Think of practical small steps to take today, like being kind and greeting others.

Matthew 13:44-46 (NIV)
The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

Read:
Matt 13:44-46

- ⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.
- ⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.
- ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Discuss:

- Can you remember a time that someone complimented you or recognised something positive in you? How did it make you feel?
- Tell of a person who you were surprised to discover had potential.
- Who are the “misfits” or the people who are looked down upon in your community?
- Is there hope for your town or community? Where can you start to look for the hidden treasures or potential in people, and how can you do this?

Pray: Pray about the people you know who do not believe in themselves. Ask God to reveal their value so that they can experience His love.

Do: Who can you help today to believe they have a hidden treasure that needs to be discovered – start by giving them words of encouragement.

Luke 14:12-24 (NIV)
The Great banquet

Read:
Luke 14: 13-14 and 18-21

- ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,
¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”
- ¹⁸ “But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, ‘I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.’
- ¹⁹ “Another said, ‘I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I’m on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.’
- ²⁰ “Still another said, ‘I just got married, so I can’t come.’
- ²¹ “The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’

Discuss:

- What surprised you in the story Christo shared in the video about sleeping on the streets?
- What does this story about the poor, crippled, blind, and lame being invited to the banquet mean to you?
- Who are the people in your community who look different than you and have other experiences than you?
- Why is it important to share stories and include a diversity of people at our tables?

Pray: Pray about poverty, hunger, and homelessness and ask Jesus to give you a generous and caring heart for others.

Do: Accept the challenge to eat a meal with someone different from you and listen to their story



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Week
5

Luke 15:11-31

Luke 15 The parables of the lost coin, sheep and son

Read:
Luke 15:21-24 (NIV)

- ²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’”
- ²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.’”
- ²³ “Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate.”
- ²⁴ “For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.”

Discuss:

- Which of the 3 “lost” stories (coin, sheep, or son) in Luke 15 do you like best and why?
- Tell of a time when you felt guilty, lost, lonely, hopeless, or unworthy.
- What did you think of yourself in this time? How did others treat you?
- How does the reaction of the father in the story of the lost son make you feel?
- How do you think this experience changed the son? How would you have reacted?

Pray: Thank Jesus for loving and forgiving you unconditionally and pray for your friends who are feeling “lost” and still need to experience His grace.

Do: Share your favourite “lost” story in Luke 15 with someone this week. #lovelocal

Matthew 13:1-23
The Parable of the Sower

Read:
Matthew 13:18-23

¹⁸ “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means:

¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy.

²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

Discuss:

- What surprises you in the parable (story) Jesus tells about how different people react to God’s word?
- What distractions can you list that prevent you from listening to God?
- What does it mean to “bear fruit” or “produce a crop”?
- In the video, Simone talks about changing her attitude. What do you need to change to “bear fruit”?

Pray: Confess the things that are preventing you from truly listening to God’s word.

Do: Ask a buddy to hold you accountable for making time to read the Bible and pray!

Luke 14:7-14
Humility and hospitality

Read:
Luke 14:7-14

¹² Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid.

¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind

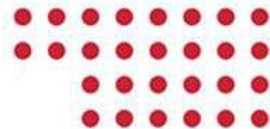
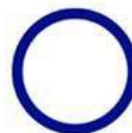
¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

Discuss:

- What did Mahalia say in the video that really stuck with you?
- Have you accepted Jesus’s invitation to come to his table and have a relationship with Him?
- Can you remember a story of when Jesus included a person or group that was usually excluded?
- Who are the ones usually excluded in your school or community? How can you treat them with compassion and invite them to experience God’s love?

Pray: Pray about your own attitude and willingness to be humble and serve others.

Do: #lovelocal this week and visit someone in your community who is old, sick or lonely. Remember to stay safe, take a friend along, wear a mask and sanitise.



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Luke 11:5-13 Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

Read:
Luke 11:5-13 (NIV)

- ⁹ "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you
- ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.
- ¹¹ "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead?
¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?
- ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Discuss:

- In the video, Percy tells the story of Luke 11: 5-9 about someone who keeps on knocking persistently and boldly asking his friend for bread. What stood out for you in her retelling of the story?
- Underline all the promises in the Scripture text. How do these promises motivate you to pray and trust God?
- How would you encourage a friend who feels God is not listening or answering his/her prayer?

Pray: Take time today to share your thoughts and life with Jesus in prayer. Also pray for those in need around you.

Do: Ask someone to pray with you daily. If you can't always get together, text each other prayer requests and encouragement.



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Week
9

Luke 21:1-4 The widow's offering

Read: Luke 21:1-4

- ¹ As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury.
- ² He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins.
- ³ "Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others.
- ⁴ All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

Discuss:

- In the video, Thys says that worship is more than just singing. How would you describe worship?
- If you were one of the disciples experiencing this story – what would you feel and think? What would you like to ask Jesus? And how do you think He would react?
- What does this story tell us about the attitude we should have when worshipping / giving to God?
- Tell of a time where you gave something away and God used it.

Pray: Make time to worship Jesus by giving yourself to Him. You might like to use music as prayer or look for a quiet place to talk and listen to God.

Do: Think of something you can give or share with someone else – it can be money, food, sport equipment, clothing, data, books, or even your time and effort. #lovelocal



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Week
10

Mark 4:30-32 The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Read:
Mark 4: 30-32

³⁰ Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it?

³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth.

³² Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade."

Discuss:

- Jesus used many metaphors to describe aspects of the kingdom of God. What do you think this parable means?
- Can you think of something small that made a big difference?
- How can social media be like a seed for (good or bad) things?
- Where do you have influence (school, friends, family, sports team, etc)? How can you use your (small) influence to #lovelocal? How can God make it grow into something bigger?

Pray: Write down the dreams you have for your school or town. Ask God to make you faithful in the small things and for his kingdom to grow and make a huge difference.

Do: Choose to be faithful in the small things today – use words of kindness, help someone with something and smile! #lovelocal