



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

John 13:12-20 Study Hints for Discussion

[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#)

are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The [Class Preparation Guide](#) includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. Did the disciples know what Jesus did as He did it? What reason did Jesus give them for what He did? Did they understand more about what He did later?

They knew He washed their feet, but they did not know why He did so. He told them that they would understand later. After He washed their feet, He told them that He was giving them an example to follow. Later, after Jesus died, rose again, and sent them the Holy Spirit, they understood more about what He did and why (some of what we discussed in the lesson prior to this lesson on John 13:1-11).

2. What three titles best describe Jesus in these verses of Scripture?

Lord, Teacher, and Master

3. Was Jesus a messenger? If so, how was Jesus a messenger? What kind of messengers did Jesus expect His disciples to be?

Yes. Jesus said that He did what He saw His Father do and taught what His Father told Him to teach and they were always in complete agreement. Jesus expected them to follow His example and teach what He taught.

4. What did Jesus say servants were not greater than? What did Jesus say messengers were not greater than?

Servants are not greater than their master. Messengers are not greater than the one who sent them.

5. Why did Jesus tell His disciples about the fact that one of them would betray Him?

So they would know that He was not caught by surprise. So they would know that He had the gift of prophecy. So they would know that Jesus knew the Scriptures and intended to fulfill the Scriptures with His perfect obedience to His Father. So they would believe Jesus is "I am," the title for the LORD God given to Moses on the mount. So they would receive Him and the Father as He had revealed the

Father and himself to them.

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Contact: P.O. Box 1052, Edmond, Oklahoma, 73083 and lgp@theiblf.com.