



**SERIES: John Believe**  
**SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD**  
**Monday, March 20, 2023**  
**Scripture: John 13:16-17**  
**TITLE: Dirty Jobs**

Have you watched the show "Dirty Jobs"? I've caught a few clips from the show where Mike Rowe tries some of the dirtiest jobs. He's tried everything from roadkill cleaning, cave digging, to diaper cleaning. The list goes on. Whenever I've watched these clips, two thoughts come to mind: 1) gross. I mean, how on earth does a person do this for a living? 2) I would never do that job, no matter how bad my situation was. In other words, it's below me.

But should I have that attitude? Here's what Jesus said about our attitude in service in John 13:16-17.

*Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.*

Jesus has just washed the disciples' feet. An act that is frankly jaw-dropping. God-in-the-flesh, King of the Universe, Judge of all, and Savior to the world, is on his knees, washing the dirt and filth off the disciples' feet. What an incredible act of humility and service. It won't be the extent of His humiliation. That is coming.

But the disciples experience this service. And it's as if they're watching an episode of Dirty Jobs. They are confused and a bit nervous. "Does He expect us to sink to that level? Sure, some of us are fishermen or tax collectors, but to act like a slave. That's beneath us. We're Jesus' disciples."

But Jesus challenges their, and our, reaction.

He says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him." Jesus is saying, "Look, for real, I'm God. I'm the Savior. I'm the Healer. I'm the Judge. You are not. You are my creation. And I'm willing to humble myself to serve. Don't even think for a moment you're above me or this action."

Now, as we discovered last week, this washing was a picture of a greater washing that was to occur. It was the removal of sins. He said they were clean. The washing of the feet was a picture of daily confession and sanctification that should occur.

We, as Jesus' servants, must look at the Savior as our example. What He was willing to do, we must be willing to do. We are not above Jesus, are we? Of course not.

Jesus says, "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. There is a blessing for those who follow Jesus in their daily lives. Psalm 119:1 echoes this. "[Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!](#)"

So here's my challenge for you today: serve someone who needs it. Your job description is the floor, not the ceiling. We are children of the King. That's true. And we are not the King. We are His servants who have the privilege to serve as God orchestrates and provides.

How is God asking you to stretch in your view of yourself and your service to others? Do it. Try it. You will be following Jesus' example. And when we do that, not only do we win the day. We will receive a blessing only God can provide.