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Sermon Title: **“WASHING, WARNING, & WREVEALING”**

John 13:1-20

- The final week of Jesus’ life actually corresponds to Passover & the Feast of Unleavened Bread (8 combined days of celebration)
 - On multiple occasions – Jesus performed a miracle & then He commanded them NOT to say ANYTHING
 - The emphasis was NOT to be put on the miracle, but rather the message
 - God’s love is beyond ALL measure & His plan of Redemption actually included the betrayal of one of His own (Judas Iscariot)
 - The sting of betrayal Jesus was going to experience was part of God’s BIGGER plan
 - In the Middle of Passover, Jesus gets up, lays His outer cloak aside, & then Jesus picks up a towel & ties it around His waist
 - Jesus was the Host & Jesus sat in the SECOND SEAT
 - In the FIRST SEAT (the seat furthest to the LEFT) was where John sat
 - This was where intimate side conversations could take place
 - It was also the spot of protection (it was like a bodyguard)
 - The Seat of Importance was the Guest of Honor (Judas sat here)
 - Peter was probably anticipating sitting in this seat of honor (especially since John was sitting in the other special seat)
 - Peter ends up sitting directly across the table from John (in the Last seat)
 - Peter probably felt doubly guilty:
 1. It was the Master, who was washing feet
 2. It was actually the responsibility of the LAST seat to wash feet of the other guests
 - What Jesus was doing in washing the disciples’ feet was giving them a visible example of servant leadership
 - There’s actually 2 really important Greek words being used:
 1. “Wash” = to Partially Wash (just hands & feet)
 2. “Bathed” = to Completely Wash (from head to toe)
- When believers in Jesus sin or come in contact with sin, they DON’T have to get completely washed again (only address the daily corruption of walking in a sin-filled world)
 - Jesus (the Host) would have shared a communal bowl with the Guest of Honor (Judas)
 - ALL of the disciples so trusted Judas that they concluded it MUST be someone else ... but who?
 - Unleavened Bread – here are some parallels to Jesus we might miss:
 1. Unleavened Bread is Yeast-less (in Scripture – yeast or leaven is often a visual for sin)
 2. Kosher Unleavened Bread has a bunch of tiny holes
 3. Kosher Unleavened Bread has multiple brown stripes
 4. During Passover Seder Meal the 1st piece of Unleavened Bread is broken in half
 - The Unleavened Bread is such a beautiful picture because it reminds us of the perfect sinless sacrifice, which Jesus willingly surrendered Himself to face for us