**The Christian Value of Love**

**Key Stage 1 – Reflection 2**

This reflection explores a further aspect of the meaning of Christian love. Drawing on the story of Jesus washing the disciples’ feet, the reflection explores the belief that we make the world more like God wants it to be through loving service rather than bossing other people around.

*You will need the associated Powerpoint.*

**Slide 1:** Explain that all through the Gospels, Jesus tries to show people that the only way you can change people’s hearts is through love. He is always trying to explain to his disciples that bossing people around won’t make the world more like God wants it to be.

Explain to the children that although it might seem funny to us now, in Jesus’ time it was customary for a servant to wash people’s feet when they came to a house for a meal. This was because people wore sandals at that time and the roads were dry and dusty.

**Slide 2:** Watch the YouTube version of the story here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmwpHKyif-U> (link also embedded at bottom of slide).

Questions to ask the children:

*Why do you think Peter said, ‘Lord you should never wash my feet.’?*

*Why do you think Jesus said, ‘I must wash your feet for you to be part of my kingdom.’? (i.e. because he needed to show them that his kingdom was a kingdom of loving service.)*

*Why do you think Jesus was kind to Judas even though he knew Judas was going to betray him? (Perhaps because Judas wanted Jesus to just boss people about but Jesus needed to show him that that wasn’t his way...)*

**Slide 3:** In fact, Jesus did give his disciples a new rule (or commandment) after he had washed the disciples’ feet – this is exactly what he said (see slide).

**Slide 4:** Sometimes when people try to following this commandment of Jesus, they say that they are ‘following Jesus’ footsteps’.

**Slide 5:** Remind the children of the discussion from the previous reflection where we discussed when there might be times that we could share love in our school. Invite the children to decide on a particular way in which they could try to follow in Jesus’ footsteps in the week ahead.

**Slide 6:** Children use the planning sheet (saved as a pdf accompanying this reflection) to record their resolutions and their progress on keeping them.

**Closing Prayer**

Dear God,

Thank you for teaching us that we can only we make the world more like you want it to be through following in the footsteps of Jesus.

Help us to follow Jesus’ example of loving service in our daily lives and guide us in the times when we are struggling to be kind.

Amen