

# DAILY QUIET TIME GUIDE

BREVARD COMMUNITY CHURCH

BETTER TOGETHER

DEVOTIONAL ADAPTED FROM: JESUS REVEALED



## HOW TO HAVE A DAILY QUIET TIME

The QT Guide is designed to help you MOVE with God through Bible Reading, reflection and prayer. It can be completed in about 7 mins.

**½ Minutes Preparing Your Heart:** Invest the first 30 seconds preparing your heart. You might pray, “Lord, cleanse my heart so You can speak to me through the Scriptures. Make my mind alert, my soul active, and my heart responsive. Surround me with Your presence during this time.

**4 Minutes Listening To God:** Take the next four minutes to read the Bible. Your greatest need is to hear a word from God. Allow the Word to strike fire in your heart. Meet the Author!

**2 1/2 Talking To God (Prayer):** After God has spoken through His Book, then speak to Him in prayer.

## DAY 1

John 13:1-6, Luke 22:19-27

### Passover Supper - Jesus Loves Us to Death

...so He got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet...(John 13:4-5).

Why did Jesus get up from the table to wash the disciples’ feet?

It was the responsibility of the master of the house to make sure that guests got their feet washed. There was no one to perform this duty where Jesus and the disciples had their meal. Someone had to humble himself and be the servant. Jesus, as their Master, chose to take the responsibility instead of picking a disciple to do it. Jesus washed their feet because He wanted to demonstrate how to serve one another.

Jesus served them because He loved them. Although the disciples did not realize how great His love was for them, that He was about to die for them, He showed them love by choosing to be a servant and wash their feet. Jesus served each of the disciples, even Judas, who was about to betray Him. No one was excluded from His love.

Let us take our example from Jesus and serve someone who does not deserve it. Serve them to show what God’s love looks like.

### Prayer:

Father, help me to be someone who is not afraid to do the dirty work. Help me to serve with a heart like yours, a heart of love. I want to love people You put in my path, regardless if they deserve it or not. Thank you for the opportunity to serve others, to allow your love to be seen through me. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

## DAY 2

John 13:7-17, Hebrews 12:12-13

## **Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet**

When we read about Jesus washing the disciples' feet, our first thought might be about servanthood. Jesus makes it clear that servant leadership is what He wants of His disciples. He wants us to take being a servant seriously too. He wants us to have a willing heart of a servant no matter the situation. But, Jesus washing the disciples' feet is not just about being a servant. It is about becoming clean. The disciples were prideful and argued among themselves who was the greatest. Jesus wanted to wash that pride away. He wanted them to repent and He wanted to forgive them. Washing their feet made the disciples respond to the humility of Jesus.

But not all of them were clean.

Judas had a bigger problem. It went deeper. It had grown roots inside him. Simple washing could not break the hold of sin on his life. For the other disciples, sin did not define their hearts. For Judas, it was a heart issue.

In Hebrews 12:15, we are warned that a root of bitterness can spring up within us and cause trouble. If someone says or does something that hurts us deeply, we can choose to hold on to it or let it go. If we hold on to it, the root of bitterness can take hold and defile us from within. But it doesn't just defile us, it can affect others as well. It can damage children, marriages, work environments, churches.... It can cause us to say and do things that are out of character. Judas betrayed his Lord and then committed suicide. Judas probably never thought he would betray Jesus. That is what a root of bitterness can do.

Take time today to ask God if there is any hurt or offense that someone has done to you that is still rooted in your life. Allow the Holy Spirit to expose it. Forgive the person or people who harmed you. If you need help, meet with a pastor or spiritual leader and let them help you walk through it.

If you get a chance today - wash someone's feet. Do it literally or symbolically. Serve them in a deep, humbling and loving manner.

### **Prayer:**

Father, as I look at my life today, I ask that You expose any hurt or wound that I have not addressed. I don't want it to infect or build a root of bitterness. I don't want to look back over my day, week, month, year, or life-time and see the damage that it did to me and those around me. I want to deal with it now. Wash me, I pray. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **DAY 3**

**John 13:18-30, Matthew 26:20-25**

### **Judas Betrays Jesus**

Judas would betray Jesus - and Jesus knew it. When we find a person on a team that is intent on destroying the team, we remove them. Jesus knew that Judas would be needed to fulfill the plan of God, so Jesus kept Judas on the team and tried to work with him.

The disciples didn't know it was Judas who would betray Jesus. They each thought they might be the one who would do it. It is unnerving that no one recognized Judas to be the betrayer and that everyone saw in themselves the possibility of being disloyal to Jesus.

According to Jewish tradition, it was a special honor to be the first to receive bread for the Passover. Jesus gave Judas the first piece of bread, exposing him as the one to betray him. It was not Jesus' desire to destroy Judas. Instead, He was offering Judas a way out of his broken life. But Judas rejected it. He allowed Satan to take control of his life. Judas was caught, he was exposed, and he refused to humble himself. Judas allowed Satan to fill his heart with murder and acted out his inner evil intention.

When Judas left the group it was night. It was night physically and it was night spiritually. There was no light in Judas's heart. When we walk away from Jesus - the Light of the world - we walk into darkness. With Judas gone, the tension was gone, the presence of evil was gone. There was freedom to openly share with the eleven and bless them.

How have you responded when your deep wounds and bitterness are exposed? Remember that all the disciples recognized in themselves the potential for betraying Jesus. They knew their hearts. Guard your heart carefully. Allow God to free you from bondage and bless you.

#### **Prayer:**

Father, thank you for people who take the time to challenge me when they see things that violate your Word. Thank you for revealing what's in my heart with love, grace, and mercy, allowing You to uproot things in my life that need to go. Help me respond with humility and repentance. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **DAY 4**

John 13:31-35, 1 John 2:5-10, Leviticus 19:17-18

### **A New Commandment**

Judas is gone and Jesus opens His heart to His disciples. We now hear some of the most important teachings of Jesus. He gives what we call the "upper room discourse." It summarizes much of what Jesus taught, opens up our understanding to the heart of God, prays a powerful prayer of blessing and dedication over His disciples.

Jesus tells the disciples that He will be leaving them. This causes confusion because they think that Jesus should be setting up His kingdom here on earth. Jesus makes it clear that this is not happening now. He is finishing the task for which He came and then He will return to the Father. He gives them the standard to follow when that happens - love one another.

Jesus gave a new command. Love one another. Be people who walk in love for one another.

Unfortunately, we often focus on what separates us. Ethnicity, education, understanding of the Bible, economic position, or a host of other things can quickly get in the way of showing God's love. Today, let's look for someone we would not normally seek out and express God's love to them using one of the five love languages:

- Words of Affirmation
- Acts of Service
- Giving a gift

- Quality time
- Physical touch or closeness

**Prayer:**

Father, I am settling in to listen like the other eleven disciples to hear the words of Jesus. I want to be more than a hearer of His words, I want to be a doer of His words. I want to practice showing love to people, expressing Your love through the 5 love languages. I know there will be times I have no desire to show love to others so I ask for Your strength in those weak times. Please give me the heart of Jesus. Amen.

**DAY 5**

[John 13:36-38](#), [John 21:18-19](#)

**Peter's Betrayal Foretold**

For a third time, Jesus says that He is going away and people cannot follow Him. Peter didn't understand what Jesus meant. "Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." (John 13:37)

Peter had a very high opinion of his spiritual strength, his love and commitment to Jesus, and his willingness to die for Jesus. Peter had great love for Jesus, but he would betray his Master. Peter had great strength, but it was nothing considering what he would face.

When we try to do things without the strength of God helping us, get ready for a fall. God would not give the disciples the strength for carrying out Jesus's task because He would not have them do something only Jesus could do.

Jesus spoke of the journey that He would take. "...Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later." (John 13:36) The journey to the cross, and future glory, is something Jesus had to take alone. The disciples would join later.

Peter had great love for Jesus, but he would betray his Master. Peter had great strength, but he disowned his Lord. Our strength is limited without help from God. Take time to ask God for the strength to do the tasks he has set before you.

**Prayer:**

Father, we see ourselves in Peter so easily. He is bold, he is strong, he loves You passionately and he is not afraid. Still he failed because he did it in his own strength. Today, I want You to examine my heart and see if there is anything that I seek to do that's not Your will. I only want to do what You provide the strength to do. In Jesus' name, Amen.