

RADICAL Pt 3

“The Language of Love”

THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE

- ➔ Jesus is the fullness of all that God is and He is the model of how God is.
- ➔ Jesus reveals God’s love and His life is the Language of Love.

OUR FOUNDATION

- God's love is the only sufficient source for human relationships.
- God's love is not only sufficient for human relationships, but also the only sufficient foundation for the fullness of human expression.

OUR POSTURE

When I think about our posture, I am referring to our default orientation to the world around us, the world in which we live and the activity of our lives within this context.

- The opposite posture to SERVE is PRESERVE.
- Our first fear is that somehow we will be taken advantage of.

SLIDE

John 13:1-7, 12-17 NIV

It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

2 The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. 3 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; 4 ***so he got up*** from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist.

5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?”

7 Jesus replied, “You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.”

12 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. 13 “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

THREE OBSERVATIONS

- ➔ This is a demonstration of Love. (v. 1)
- ➔ This isn't conditioned on Response (v. 2)
- ➔ This is an expression of His Identity & Authority (v. 3).

SERVING & TRUST

If our posture isn't self-centered, then it must be directed outward.

The expression of God's love is oriented towards others and requires something from us...
God's Love expressed in the world is others-oriented and self-sacrificing.

"Love is the gift of the self." (Ester Lightcap Meek)

SLIDE

EXPRESSIVE & RELATIONAL

- We bear the INTEGRITY of His Image— —> Serving as Expressive.
- We bear the INFLUENCE of His Love— —> Serving as Relational.

The exchange of Love builds Trust.

- ➔ To LOVE is to KNOW.
- ➔ To KNOW is to TRUST

SLIDE

TWO WAYS TO TRUST

1. You actually get to know other people when you make yourself more available—
more willing to offer more of yourself.
2. You actually get to share responsibility when you trust others to take responsibility—
more willing to entrust others with responsibility.