

John 13: 1-17 / 2-4s





You will need...

- Towel
- Washing up bowl
- Large jug of water
- A volunteer, already primed, who is wearing sandals, and feet covered in coffee granules and brown spices



The story

Story	Actions
This term, all our stories have been showing us how God cares for everyone. Today's story is a true story from the Bible about how Jesus cared for his friends, showing them God's care.	
The place where Jesus lived was very hot and dusty. Everyone wore sandals and so their feet got hot and dusty too. Washing other people's feet was a nasty job that servants had to do. Feet could get really filthy, like this.	Show your volunteer's feet to the audience.
This all happened at the last meal that Jesus had with his closest friends. Jesus knew that he was going to die soon. Jesus wanted to show his friends one last time, how much he cared for them. And he wanted to teach them how to care for others when he wasn't with them anymore.	
So Jesus decided to wash his friends' feet. Jesus wasn't a servant. He was God's son – the most important person in the world! But he wanted to show his friends how much he cared for them, so Jesus did the servant's job.	
He got a towel, and poured some water into a bowl. Then he went to wash his friends' dirty, smelly feet!!!	Put a towel around your waist. Pour water into the bowl

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One of Jesus' friends, called Peter couldn't believe what Jesus was about to do.	Volunteer says, "No, I won't let you wash my feet. That's not right. You're the boss!"
But Jesus explained to Peter, ""I am your teacher and your Lord. I want to wash your feet to show you what it looks to care for others. You mustn't think that you are too important to care for others like this, even washing their feet." When he had finished, he dried them with the towel.	Wash and dry the feet of your volunteer as you speak. Make a big deal of it. Rub fingers between toes. Really get manky! Dry the feet with a towel
When he had finished, Jesus said to his friends. "Be like me, and care for others, even when it means doing the nasty jobs no-one wants to do."	
Jesus showed his friends how much he cared for them. Jesus wanted his people to do whatever it took to care for other people around them. No job should be too messy for Jesus' people. And Jesus cares for each one of us, too. There's nothing he wouldn't do for us. There's nothing he didn't do for us. Even dying for us.	
	Sing - God's love is the best love

Top Tips

Everything needs to be said with plenty of intonation, life, interest and volume to keep toddlers interested. It will sound odd!