## 28

# Servanthood

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness... he humbled himself... Philippians 2:5-8

Family Book	Hinduism	<b>Prominent Themes</b>	India	Bibliography	Videos (YouTube)
Author &   Photographer   Michael Collopy	Shared Concepts Recognizable Rituals	<b>Dharma</b> Ethics & duties		Operation World Jason Mandryk, 7th ed.	Geography Now: India
	<b>Cosmology Shared Texts</b> Vedas	<i>Samsara</i> Continuing cycle of birth, life, death, and		Geographica h. f. ullman	Mother Teresa - 20th Century Humanitarian - Biography Mother Teresa of Calcutta on
	Upanishads Bhagavad Gita Ramayana	rebirth <b>Karma</b> Action, intent & consequences <b>Moksha</b> Liberation from samsara or liberation in this life <b>Yogas</b> Paths or practices		Financial Times World Desk Reference DK	Moher Teresa of Calculus on Irish Television, 1974 Meet Arjun & Neha - a
	Agamas <u>Pilgrimage (sacred sites)</u> Strong tradition of				persecuted family from India (Open Doors USA)
	questioning authority to deepen understanding and further develop tradition				The Untouchable Kids of India (Classic Ranger Rick)

Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud.

# Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

#### John 13:1-17

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.

The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God, 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, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

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

"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

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. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and

Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

## Jesus called them together and said,

Proverbs 16:19

"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you.

Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave -- just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

-Matthew 20:25-28

### **CHALLENGE QUESTIONS**

In Hinduism, the highest caste are the Brahmins - the priests, teachers, and intellectuals.

The Dalit are those who are considered to be below the four-caste system; they are referred to as the "untouchables." They are given the dirtiest jobs and those in the caste system refuse to touch them.

Compare this to Jesus' words on what it means to be "Teacher" and "Lord."

How did Mother Teresa live out these words among the people of India? Why was this revolutionary?