### LIVING HOPE DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT COMMUNITY

### Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions & Opening Prayer TBD
- Worship Music Less Like Me (Zach Williams)
- Discussion Video His Grace is Enough: Called to Love Like Jesus- Ed
- Open Discussion Sharon
- Prayer Requests Sharon
- Closing & Prayer Sharon

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# WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE LIKE

1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. 2 During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist.

5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" 7 Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." 8 Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." 9 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!"

10 Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." 11 For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean." 12 When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am.

14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. 16 Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

### Main Idea

We are called to love like Jesus - through humble service, sacrificial caregiving, and faithful obedience - trusting that God blesses those who serve others with His love.



### **Humble Service**

- Caregiving often involves tasks that feel hidden, exhausting, or emotionally complex.
- Jesus didn't shy away from the lowly work of washing feet.
- He chose it to show what love looks like in action

### **Humble Service**

- Jesus entered the intimate space of others' needs just as we do daily.
- Caregiving reflects Jesus' humility & self-emptying love.

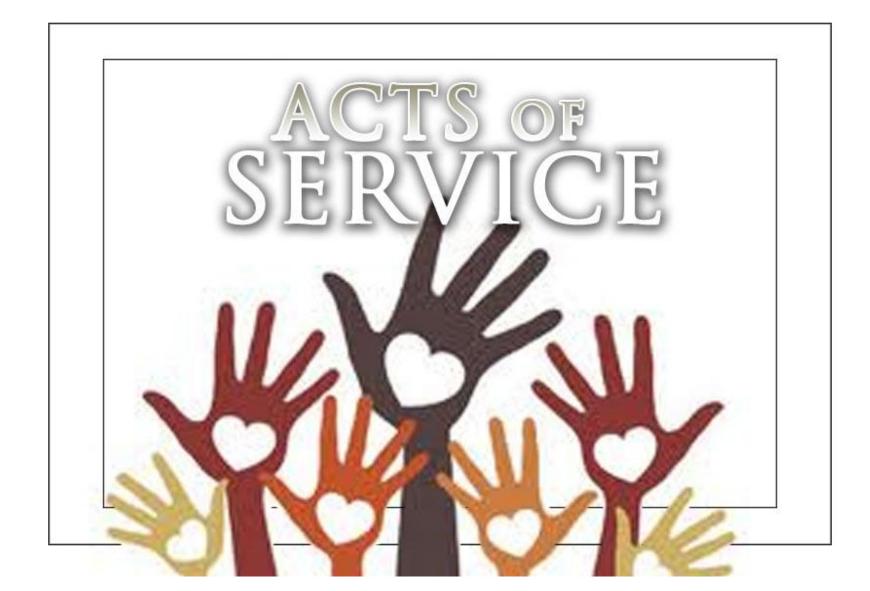
5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,[a] 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,[b] 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,[c] being born in the likeness of men.

(Philippians 2:5–7 ESV)

### **Humble Service**

- Our service echoes the mission of Jesus Himself.
- 45 "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

  (Mark 10:45 ESV)
- Jesus is present in all caregiving moments.
- 27 For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves. (Luke 22:27 ESV)



### Acts of Service

- When dementia clouds memory & recognition, love must be expressed through touch, tone & presence.
- These acts are not small they are sacred.
- Every meal prepared, every moment of patience is a spiritual act.
- Humility is the heartbeat of caregiving.
  - 13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. (Galatians 5:13 ESV)

### **Acts of Service**

- Even when our loved ones forget who we are, God sees our honor.
  - 10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. (Romans 12:10 ESV)
- We lay down our time, energy & expectations in Christlike love.
  - 13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (John 15:13 ESV)

### **Acts of Service**

- Love is the garment that holds the caregiving journey together.
- 4 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. (Colossians 3:14 ESV)

### GOD BLESSES THOSEWHO BLESS OTHERS.

- Caregiving may feel thankless, but Scripture assures us: God sees.
- He refreshes those who refresh others & honors those who serve the vulnerable.
- Obedience in caregiving brings spiritual blessing.

17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. (John 13:17 ESV)

- God replenishes weary caregivers.
- 25 Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered. (Proverbs 11:25 ESV)
- Our actions are not forgotten they are fruitful.
- 25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

  (James 1:25 ESV)

Jesus identifies with our loved one - and with us.

40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' (Matthew 25:40 ESV)

Even in the fog of dementia, our light shines.

10 if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. 11 And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. (Isaiah 58:10–11 ESV)

### **Discussion Questions**

- What does "washing feet" look like in your daily caregiving routines?
- How do you experience God's presence in moments when your loved one cannot respond or recognize you?
- What helps you stay spiritually grounded when connection feels one-sided?
- Jesus laid aside His robe to serve—what personal expectations or comforts have you had to lay aside in caregiving?
- What blessings—spiritual, emotional, or relational—have you experienced through caregiving, even in the midst of hardship?

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