Preschool–Grade 5

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet Craft

He poureth water into a bason · John 13:1–17 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



Harder

Both levels are a paper bason: a light brown bowl with blue water at the top and two light brown feet slid into it, toes up, with a white towel with blue stripes beside it. Jesus "poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel" (John 13:5). Medium (left): the bason, the feet and the towel. Harder (right): the same, with four serving feet in a row, each with a picture of a way to serve.

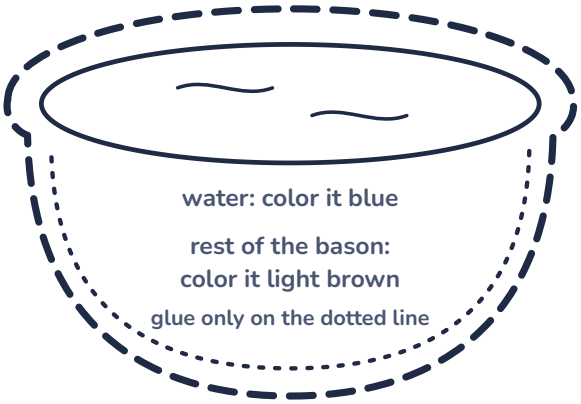
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Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet Craft (page 2)

Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

bason back



bason front: color it light brown





feet: color them light brown
and the water drops blue



towel: leave it white, color the stripes blue

For I have given you an example,
that ye should do as I have
done to you.
John 13:15 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the bason

Color the water blue and the bason light brown. Color the feet light brown and the drops blue. Leave the towel white with blue stripes. Cut out all six pieces. Glue the bason front on the bason back only on the dotted line, so the top stays open.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Serving feet (harder level)

Color each picture, cut on the dashed lines, and write on the back.



sweep or clean up

get a drink for someone

read to someone

be kind and help a friend

feet: color them light brown, and color the pictures any colors you like

How to make the serving feet

1. Make the bason, the feet and the towel from page 2 first.
2. Color the four serving feet light brown. Color the pictures any colors you like: a broom, a cup, a book and a heart.
3. Cut them out on the dashed lines.
4. On the back of each foot, write the name of someone you will serve this week, and how. Ideas: sweep the kitchen for Mom, get a drink for Grandpa, read to a little brother or sister, help a friend.
5. Keep the serving feet in the bason with the other two feet. Each day this week, pull one out and do it. Jesus said, "ye also ought to wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/jesus-washes-feet-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), blue and light brown crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child, crayons in any colors and a pencil.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the bason back, the bason front, the two feet, the towel and the verse strip ahead of time. Glue the bason front on the bason back (only on the dotted line, top open) and glue the verse strip on the back.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and glue the bason together with the verse on the back. Kids color the water blue, the bason and the feet light brown and the towel stripes blue. Then they slide the feet in and wipe them with the towel.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut, glue the bason pocket and tell the story with the feet and the towel. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the bason like the medium level. Then add the four serving feet from page 3, with a way to serve written on the back of each. This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the water on the bason back blue. Color the rest of the bason back and the whole bason front light brown. Color the two feet light brown and their water drops blue. Leave the towel white and color its stripes blue.
2. **Cut:** cut out the bason back, the bason front, the two feet, the towel and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
3. **Make the bason:** put glue only on the dotted line of the bason back. Press the bason front on top so the sides and bottoms line up. Leave the top open, so it makes a pocket.
4. **Verse:** turn the bason over and glue the verse strip on the back. Read it together.
5. **Tell it:** Jesus poured water into a bason (John 13:5). Slide the two feet into the bason, heels first, so the toes stick up out of the water.
6. **Wipe them:** Jesus began to wash the disciples' feet, "and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded" (13:5). Pull the feet out one at a time and wipe them with the towel.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- When did this happen? *(Before the feast of the passover, at supper, John 13:1–2)*
- How long did Jesus love His own? *("Unto the end," 13:1)*
- Hold up the towel. What did Jesus do with a towel? *(He girded Himself with it, 13:4)*
- Hold up the bason. What did Jesus pour into it? *(Water, 13:5)*
- What did Peter say first? *("Thou shalt never wash my feet," 13:8)*
- What did Jesus answer? *("If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me," 13:8)*
- What did the disciples call Jesus? *(Master and Lord, 13:13)*
- What did Jesus say He had given them? *(An example, that they should do as He had done, 13:15)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** a **bason** is a bowl; **girded himself** means He tied the towel around His waist; **riseth** means gets up; **laid aside his garments** means took off His outer clothes; **dost thou** means do you; an **example** is something to copy; **happy are ye** means you are blessed.
- **What the Bible says:** John tells about the water, the bason and the towel (John 13:4–5). It doesn't say what the bason was made of or what color it was, so the craft's bason is colored light brown. The Bible doesn't give the number of disciples in this passage, so the craft shows only two feet.
- **No one is drawn on the template, and never Jesus:** the feet are only feet, and kids tell the story with them.
- **Keep it dry:** this craft is paper, so there is no real water. Kids "wash" by sliding the feet into the bason and wipe them with the paper towel.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and glue the pockets ahead of time. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child say, "Jesus washed their feet!" and wipe the feet with the towel.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Jesus washes the disciples' feet lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/jesus-washes-feet.

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