**John 13:12-17**

**Jesus, My Master**

I. We are not used to thinking in terms of having a master, but Jesus regularly talks about being our master.

II. See John 13:12-17, Luke 13:7-10, Luke 19:11-27

A. Obvious ways that Jesus fulfills the role of Master in our lives

 1. The master is the commander

 1. His commands must come first

2. His commands are final commands: he doesn’t need to explain his reasons to us for why we must follow his commands

 2. The master is judge

He comes back to reward his servants according to what they have done with what he has entrusted to him

 3. The master receives something like worship

B. Less expected ways that Jesus relates to us as master

1. The master becomes the model for what the servants are to be. Most masters make their slaves do all the dirty work, but Jesus himself does the dirty work as master (washes his disciples feet—John 13)

2. The master dies on behalf of the servants (consider the Lord’s Supper)

3. He calls us friends (John 15)

III. Implications for our daily lives

A. Obey his commandments

B. Your master is the one who creates your “have to do” list. There are many possible forces making up our have to do list:

1. Ourselves

Advertisements tell us “you deserve the best.” Our “want to haves” becomes our “have to have” list. We begin to organize our lives around our desires. We become slaves to our own disordered desires.

 2. Other people.

a. Trying to please others and meet their expectations and demands.

b. Past relationships: some of us our haunted by past relationships (with parents, etc.) that drive us to do all sorts of things

 3. Vain glory

Vain glory is wanting the praise of others or the praise that belongs to others.

C. When we multiply our masters that each have their have to do list, our lives become burdened and heavy-laden. Jesus calls us to let him be our only master. To do that we must take up our cross and lay down the burden of other masters.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Read together Luke 13:7-10 and consider the obvious ways Jesus fulfills the role of master in our lives from point II.A above. How does that parable strike you as it relates to your own relationship with Jesus? In what ways do you view your relationship with him in those terms, and in what ways do you not?

2. Consider the less expected ways Jesus relates to us as master mentioned in point II.B above. Which of those points do you most need to be reminded of at this time? Why?

3. When you consider who or what creates your “have to do” list, what comes up for you? What other “masters” or influences are creating your have to do list that you would like to surrender to the Lord?

4. How would your life look or feel different specifically if Jesus were the only one determining your have to do list?