

Answering the Call

--to servanthood

choreographed by Allison Gilliam

taken from John 13 (TNIV)

Costumes are needed for Jesus and Peter, a “towel” at least 48 inches long and 18 inches wide so it can be tied around Jesus, and later, Peter, with a longer end hanging down for washing of feet, a stand or table for placing a pitcher and bowl (with towel draped over it at the beginning, and two low stools for washing of feet. Woman, child, and man will wear their own clothing. The song, Knowing You, Jesus by Graham Kendrick, © 1993 Make Way Music, is used.

(Scripture reader on floor level—stage left)

Now before the festival of the Passover, *(Jesus slowly comes to stage right where a table with basin, pitcher, & towel are placed)* **Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table** *(give him time to get to his destination)* **and tied a towel around Himself. Then He poured water into a basin** *(wait until he has poured water and started to stool)* **and began to wash the disciple’s feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around Him.**

He came to Simon Peter *(Peter get up from seat but remains on the floor level with Jesus looking toward him)* **who said to Him, “Lord, are You going to wash my feet?”** **Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.”** **Peter said to Him,** *(Peter is shaking his head as these words are spoken)* **“You will never wash my feet.”** **Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.”** **Simon Peter said to Him,** *(Peter rushes to his seat before Jesus)* **“Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”** *(Jesus washes Peter’s feet during His next statement.)* **Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet but is entirely clean.**

Answering the Call, cont.

After He had washed Peter's feet (*Jesus gets up from the stool and walks to stage left*) **and had returned to the table Jesus said to him,** (*Jesus gestures for Peter to join Him*) **“Do you know what I have done to you?”**
Answering the Call, cont.

You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. (*Scripture reader sits as piano begins introduction of “Knowing You, Jesus,” during which time Jesus removes the towel from Himself and places it around Peter. Peter then moves to the stool where Jesus sat*)

VERSE 1: Woman comes to have feet washed when first solo begins. Action takes place very slowly so that woman moves toward Jesus as choir starts the chorus “Knowing you, Jesus. . . ” The woman bows before Jesus until the same action is repeated for child (v. 2) and man (v. 3, sung by choir).

When the woman hears the choir sing the chorus a 3rd time, “Knowing you, Jesus”, she rises and leaves stage to front row. The same action is repeated by child and man, and finally, Peter comes to kneel before Jesus, gets up and leaves the stage.

Note to Jesus: As each of the four kneel before him, he outstretches his hand. He lowers his hand and watches the next one have his feet washed. At the end, Jesus lifts his head toward heaven before he walks off stage as the last “. . . and I love you Lord” is sung by the choir.

For more on worship, contact allison@sweetgospel.com