



# I'm the Greatest

*Cultivating Lifestyles of Reconciliation*

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## I'm the Greatest

Based on Luke 22:24-30 and John 13:1-17

*By Ted Kober*

**Summary:** Even on the night of the Last Supper, the disciples are arguing again about which one of them is the greatest. Jesus washes their feet as he confronts their pride with his own example of humility. This skit teaches how to confront sinful pride as well as demonstrate the servant attitude of our Lord, who not only came to serve the disciples of his day, but who also came to serve us. Requires 7 actors including a narrator. Takes about 4 minutes.

**Audience:** General

**Actors:** Narrator, Jesus, and the disciples Andrew, James, Peter, John, and Thomas  
If available, you may have 7 other disciples sitting around the table.

*Note to Actors: Read Luke 22:24-30 and John 13:1-17 to prepare for this skit.*

**Props:** A table with six chairs (or 13 if you have additional actors) behind it and on the sides, where the disciples are sitting. One chair remains empty for Jesus.  
A large bowl or basin  
A pitcher (water is optional)  
A large towel to wrap around Jesus' waist

*The time is just before the Last Supper. The disciples are gathered around a table, before the Passover meal is served, talking among themselves. All of them are barefoot (because they leave their shoes at the door, which is the custom).*

**Narrator:** On the very night that Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, a dispute arose among the disciples. This wasn't the first time that His disciples disagreed with one



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another, and it certainly has not been the last. Once again, Jesus had to address conflict among his followers.

You might remember that the disciples had just experienced some exhilarating times. Jesus raised his friend Lazarus back to life after he had been dead for days. Then, as the disciples and Jesus entered Jerusalem, a great crowd gathered, honoring Jesus with palm branches and worshiping him. The disciples were certain that the time was near when Jesus would deliver the Jews from the Roman Empire. And the disciples once again were vying for positions of personal recognition for the victory that would certainly come.

**Andrew:** Hey, James, don't you remember how people responded to my preaching on our mission trip? The people loved the way I spoke about repentance. I think I am well qualified to sit at the right hand of the Master.

**James:** Andrew, you puff yourself up too much. Let me remind you that when Jesus went on top of that mountain for that awesome experience we had, which we can't tell you much about, he didn't choose to take you along. He chose me. Jesus himself thinks that I am qualified to sit at his right side when triumph will be ours.

**Peter:** You two are both full of hot air. Have you forgotten the miracles I performed? Who of you had faith to walk on water to meet our Teacher? Why, you were all so afraid that you called Him a spook! What kind of leaders are you? Look at me! I'm the "Rock!"

**John:** Peter, you're a rock, alright! And you sank like a rock, too, until the Master reached out to save you. *[The other disciples laugh.]* You're always putting your foot in your mouth, and you're doing it again. Who wants to follow a guy who always speaks before he thinks?

**Thomas:** Well, John, you're not all that hot either. Whenever there's a crowd gathering around, you're the first one to disappear. You hate noisy crowds, and when the going gets rough, John gets going!

**James:** Thomas, you're a great one to talk. You never accept the Rabbi's words unless you hear it firsthand. Why, if you only had the faith of a mustard seed...

**Peter:** James, you're the worst critic a man can hope for. And you're always bragging, too. However, humility is one of my best qualities. Therefore...

*Everyone starts speaking at once, bragging about his own abilities and tearing the others down. Jesus enters the room, carrying a bowl and a pitcher of water with a towel wrapped around his waist. The disciples fall silent as he enters, embarrassed about their arguments. The last one to quit bragging is Peter, who suddenly realizes what everyone is looking at. He*

