[simply jesus]

Lesson 1 John 13:1-20

Note about the 'Upper Room Discourse'

John, chapters 13 through 17, is known as Jesus' Upper Room discourse. Here, Jesus speaking just before His crucifixion, shares His most intimate thoughts. Within hours, Jesus would be hanging on the cross. In less than twenty-four hours, He would be dead and buried. These were the last words they would hear Jesus say to them before He died.

Intro (Pre-video)

If it was your last night to spend with someone very special to you, how would you spend that time?
Read: John 13:1-20   View video Lesson 1

1. In light of who Jesus is, what was significant about how Jesus chose to show His love to the disciples (vs. 3)?

2. In the video, Skye stated, Jesus was totally secure in his identity, knowing where he'd come from and where he was going--he could take on the role of a servant without any shame, with no disgrace, with no thought about what others might think or say about him. In contrast Henri Nouwen observed that everywhere in our world there are voices telling us:
    o   Prove you are lovable
    o   Prove you are worth something
    o   Prove you have a contribution to make
    o   Do something relevant
    o   Make a name for yourself
    What about you? Which voices influence you the most?

3. Peter thought his reputation was in question because his master behaved like a servant. What changed Peter's thought? (Verses 8-9)

4. Jesus knew who He was, where He came from, and where He was going. As we are on our own spiritual journey, how are we certain of who we are, where we have come from, and where we are going?

5. How does this knowledge free you to love and serve in challenging moments or with people? Can you share with the group a time when you experienced freedom in a difficult situation?

6. It's much more humbling to receive than to give. How can you put yourself in a posture to receive from Jesus or others this week?

End the group time praying in pairs that we would be secure in our identity with Jesus and able to freely love each other.