

# Relationships ~ The Most Intangible Asset

by Ron Gannett

## John 13 -- Leading Through Relationships

*It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.*

*The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*

*He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"*

*Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."*

*~ John 13:1-7*

### Lessons

#### **Passover**

1. Leaders see through the emotion of the moment to God's plan.

#### **time had come**

2. Leaders are sensitive to God's timing.

#### **loved his own**

3. Leaders know that love must guide all relationships.

#### **full extent of his love**

4. Leaders know no limits to their efforts.

#### **the devil**

5. Leaders see the influence of evil in situations and people.

*prompted Judas Iscariot*

6. Leaders see through painful people.

*the Father had put all things under his power*

7. Leaders exercise their authority from God.

*he had come from God and was returning to God*

8. Leaders can relate the past to the future.

*returning to God*

9. Leaders take the long view with confidence in God's sovereignty.

*he got up from the meal*

10. Leaders initiate – they take people where they would not go by themselves.

*wash his disciples' feet*

11. Leaders show no task is below their dignity.

*I have set you an example (v. 15)*

12. Leaders must model the message and methods.

*feet*

13. Leaders know that the way up is down.

*you do not realize now*

14. Leaders may have to lead alone when others don't understand.

*no part with me*

15. Leaders seek to unite people with Christ.

## ❑ *Sources of Relational Conflict*

1. Personal Style
2. Organizational Structures
3. Control Mentality
4. Single-Issue People
5. Transferred Anger
6. Simple Jealousy

## ❑ *During the Conversation*

1. Compliment ~ There is always something you can appreciate.
2. Listen ~ Try to bring healing by letting them talk.
3. Values ~ Focus on the vision and values you share.
4. Ask ~ Seek ways you can help them.
5. Simple ~ Provide short and simple responses.
6. Unite ~ Rebuild the bond which has been damaged.

**Pray!**