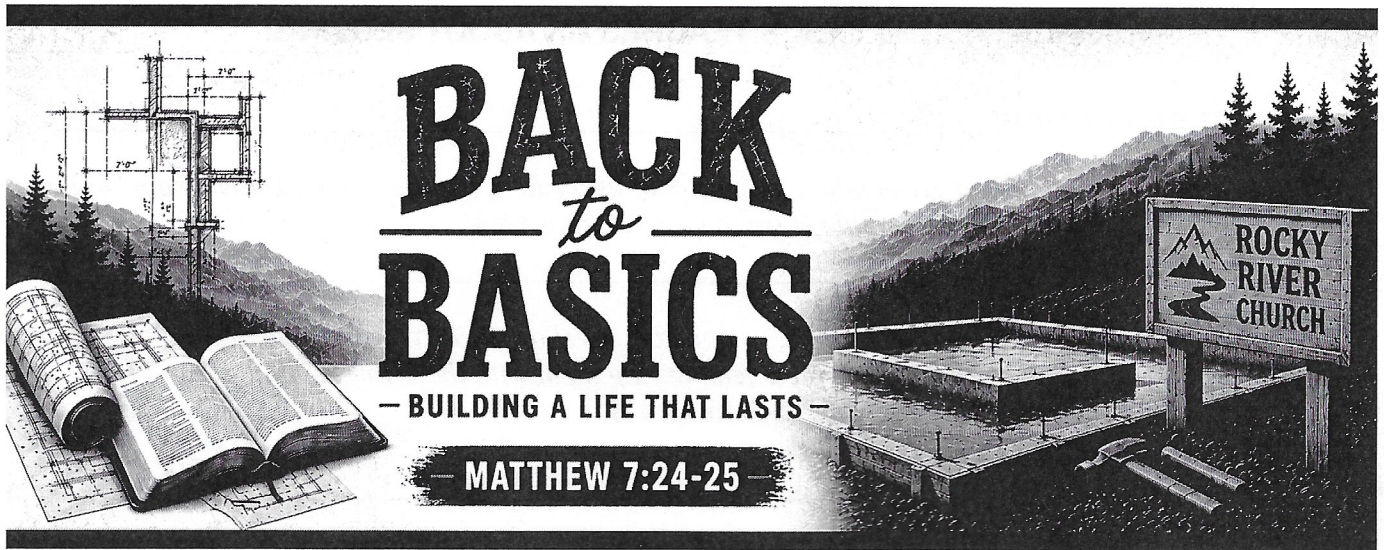




PICK UP THE TOWEL

ROCKY RIVER CHURCH – AUGUST 30, 2026

JIMMY BRITT, LEAD PASTOR

FOCUS TEXT – JOHN 13:1-17

¹ Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end. ² It was time for supper, and the devil had already prompted Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God. ⁴ So he got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, ⁵ and poured water into a basin. Then he began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he had around him.

⁶ When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷ Jesus replied, "You don't understand now what I am doing, but someday you will."

⁸ "No," Peter protested, "you will never ever wash my feet!"

Jesus replied, "Unless I wash you, you won't belong to me."

⁹ Simon Peter exclaimed, "Then wash my hands and head as well, Lord, not just my feet!"

¹⁰ Jesus replied, "A person who has bathed all over does not need to wash, except for the feet, to be entirely clean. And you disciples are clean, but not all of you." ¹¹ For Jesus knew who would betray him. That is what he meant when he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² After washing their feet, he put on his robe again and sat down and asked, "Do you understand what I was doing? ¹³ You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are right, because that's what I am. ¹⁴ And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. ¹⁵ I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ I tell you the truth, slaves are not greater than their master. Nor is the messenger more important than the one who sends the message. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them.

FOUR LESSONS JESUS TEACHES US ABOUT SERVING:

#1. Serving starts with _____.

"Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God." -John 13:3

#2. Serving means _____.

"So He got up from the table, took off His robe, wrapped a towel around His waist, and poured water into a basin. Then He began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel He had around Him."
-John 13:4-5

3. Serving others means _____.

"After washing their feet, He put on His robe again and sat down and asked, 'Do you understand what I was doing?'" -John 13:12

MEMORY VERSE:

"I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you."
-John 13:15

#4. The blessing comes _____.

"Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them." -John 13:17

MY NEXT STEPS:

- ☐ Memorize this week's **Memory Verse** – **John 13:15**
- ☐ I will spend **10 minutes** each day in God's Word – by reading one chapter of the **Gospel of Matthew** each day.
 - Monday – Matthew 13
 - Tuesday – Matthew 14
 - Wednesday – Matthew 15
 - Thursday – Matthew 16
 - Friday – Matthew 17
 - Saturday – Matthew 18
- ☐ Using your **Connection Card**, sign up to serve on a **volunteer team** - today.
- ☐ Get information about our next **Membership Class**.
- ☐ Get information about our next **Baptism**.

NEXT WEEK @ ROCKY RIVER CHURCH:

BACK TO BASICS: FEEING YOUR SOUL ON THE WORD OF GOD

