

## Thanksgiving Basket Reflection

### John 13:12-17

*So when Jesus had washed their feet and put his outer clothing back on, he took his place at the table again and said to them, "Do you understand what I have done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord', and do so correctly, for that is what I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you too ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example- you should do just as I have done for you. I tell you the solemn truth, the slave is not greater than his master, nor is the one who is sent as a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you understand these things, you will be blessed if you do them."*

### **Reflection:**

**Here is a way to engage in spiritual conversation around this act of service. If you are serving with someone else, especially children, talk about these questions.**

1. As you go about gathering the items for the Thanksgiving Basket or as you prepare an offering for the purchase of items to go in a basket, how does it feel to be the servant – the one who is serving the needs of financially challenged families?
2. Can you think of a time when the roles were reversed, when you were the one being served instead of the one serving? Which role is harder for you and why?
3. How do you think the family receiving your basket will feel?
4. What words can you say over the basket as a prayer or blessings for the family receiving it? Give everyone a chance to say some word or words of blessings.
5. As Jesus gave the example of serving others by washing feet and now you are being an example by filling a Thanksgiving basket, how might this act of service extend to your everyday life?

### **Prayer:**

Dear Lord,

We pray for all of the men, women and children who are experiencing food insecurity. We pray that these Thanksgiving Baskets provide them with nourishment for the bodies and hope for the future. Help them to know that they are not alone. Protect and watch over them knowing that you love them and are with them always and in all ways.

We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen.