

The Easter Story Answers

These are the most probable answers, using evidence from the text. Other answers are acceptable if they are consistent with the text and are plausible.

1. What might have prompted Jesus to leave the table and wash the disciples' feet?
Jesus knew he was going to die, he wanted to leave the disciples with a final lesson and a good example to follow.
2. Who usually washed the feet of guests at a meal? Give reasons for your answer.
The feet of the guests would have been washed by a maid or servant because the text says that the disciples 'wondered why He was doing such a humble task like washing people's feet.' And that they thought it was a 'shocking' thing for Jesus to do.
3. Why did Jesus tell Peter that if he didn't let him wash his feet he couldn't stay with him?
Washing his friends' feet was something that Jesus really wanted to do to show he was no more important than they were. If Peter wouldn't let him do this then Jesus could not show the importance of being 'washed' clean. Jesus is referring to staying with him not just in life but also in death, being washed clean to enter heaven.
4. Why did Jesus change his clothes to wash the disciples' feet?
Washing the disciples feet may have been messy and wet so Jesus changed into other clothes. It also showed the disciples that sometimes Jesus was like a servant and at other times like a friend and changing clothes was a symbol of that change of role.
5. Why did Jesus ask the disciples to wash each other's feet?
Just like Jesus washed his friends' feet to show that he wasn't too important to do such a job. He wanted the disciples to show others respect and humility and to not think of themselves as too important to serve.