

# Passion

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*This drama could be done as a reading and a shadow play. Jesus and a few other actors are behind a scrim. If you don't want to use a scrim, it will work well just as a reading.*

## Introduction

**Reader 1:** Passion

**Reader 2:** Webster uses these words to define passion:

**Reader 1:** a ruling emotion;

**Reader 2:** an intense feeling;

**Reader 1:** outside of mere reason;

**Reader 2:** a strong, deep emotion;

**Reader 1:** rage;

**Reader 2:** undying love and affection;

**Reader 1:** sorrow;

**Reader 2:** grief;

**Reader 1:** a driving force of intent;

**Readers 1 & 2:** the suffering of Christ.

**Reader 1:** God calls us to fellowship in His suffering,

**Reader 2:** so self can find its way to the cross.

**Reader 1:** So we can find inexplicable joy in the sacrifice of self.

*(pause)*

## Passover Meal

*(optional shadow play could begin here)*

**Readers 3 & 4:** The disciples had little knowledge that night of the Passover meal.

**Reader 2:** Some thought it to be a coronation.

**Reader 1:** Some thought it would be the eve of a battle or revolution.

**Reader 1:** Only Jesus knew.

**Reader 2:** He "knew that the time had come for him to leave this world,"

**Reader 1:** to experience the greatest pain and deepest emotion any human had ever, or would ever, experience.

**Reader 2:** At this time of His greatest need, Jesus got up from the feast "and wrapped a towel around his waist."

**Reader 3:** Master, please sit down!

**Reader 4:** What are You doing?

**Reader 3:** You're our leader.

**Reader 4:** Put the towel back on the rack.

**Reader 1:** "After that, he poured water into a basin."

**Reader 3:** Wait a minute, Jesus. We've seen You visit with lepers, Samaritans, and children. We've seen You spit in mud and deliver deranged demoniacs, but this is really uncalled for.

**Reader 4:** You don't have to prove anything to us.

**Jesus:** What did you say?

**Reader 4:** I said, You don't have to prove anything to us.

**Reader 1:** Jesus knelt at the feet of one of His disciples, whose feet were callused, scarred, and dusty from years of travel, and He began to wash them.

**Reader 3:** Why are You doing this?

**Reader 4:** Is this another prophecy You are trying to fulfill?

**Reader 3:** We know You are good; You don't have to prove it to us.

**Jesus:** That's not why I'm doing this, James,

**Reader 2:** He said as He moved to the next disciple.

**Reader 1:** A holy silence fell over the room. Only the sound of the water, the basin, the rag, and an occasional sob from those to whom He ministered.

**Reader 2:** He came to Peter, who stood up and shouted.

**Reader 4:** "No!...you shall never wash my feet."

**Reader 1:** Jesus whispered,

**Jesus:** "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

**Readers 3 & 4:** Peter and the other 11 still didn't get it.

**Jesus:** "Do you understand what I have done

for you?...You call me "Teacher" and "Lord," and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."

*(shadow play dissolves)*

**Reader 1:** Jesus Christ—

**Reader 2:** Son of God,

**Reader 1:** Lord of the universe—

**Reader 2:** in His greatest time of human need,

**Reader 1:** in His greatest moment of passion,

**Reader 2:** served

**Reader 1:** with desire,

**Reader 2:** love,

**Reader 1:** sorrow,

**Reader 2:** passion.

**Reader 1:** A passion for service.

**Reader 2:** A passion for care.

**Reader 1:** A passion for people.

**Reader 2:** "Who, being in very nature God,"

**Reader 1:** "did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,"

**Reader 2:** "but made himself"

**Reader 1:** "nothing,"

**Reader 2:** "taking the very nature of a servant,"

**Reader 1:** “being made in human likeness.”

**All Readers:** Passion

**Reader 2:** “And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself”

**Reader 2:** A strong, deep emotion

**Reader 1:** “and became obedient to death—”

**All Readers:** Passion

**Reader 2:** “even death on a cross!”

**Reader 3:** Undying love and affection

**All Readers:** Who will follow His leading?

**All Readers:** Passion

**Reader 1:** Who will say,

**Reader 1:** God-anointed sorrow

**Reader 2:** I cannot “serve two masters.” For if I do, I “will hate the one and love the other.” I “will be devoted to the one and despise the other.” I “cannot serve both God and Money.”

**All Readers:** Passion

**Reader 4:** Grief

**Reader 3:** I was not created to be served, but to serve.

**All Readers:** Passion

**Reader 1:** A driving force of intent

**Reader 2:** To serve, not out of need for significance,

**All Readers:** Passion

**Reader 2:** A driving passion to serve

**Reader 1:** not for appearance,

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Scripture: John 13:1,4-5,8,12-15; Philippians 2:6-8;  
Matthew 6:24

**Reader 4:** not for salvation.

**Reader 2:** But to serve out of passion,

**Reader 1:** the passion portrayed that night—

**Reader 3:** with a towel,

**Reader 1:** a basin,

**Reader 4:** water,

**Reader 3:** and holy hands.

**Reader 1:** Passion

**Reader 2:** An intense feeling

**Reader 3:** Passion

**Reader 1:** Outside of mere reason