



**CONVERSATIONS**  
*what is Jesus  
saying to you?*

**RIVER OF THE SPIRIT**  
**February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

## TEXT: JOHN 7:37-44 ESV

<sup>37</sup> On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. <sup>38</sup> Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' " <sup>39</sup> Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

## RIVER OF THE SPIRIT!

*For I will pour out water to quench your thirst and to irrigate your parched fields. And I will pour out my Spirit on your descendants, and my blessing on your children.*  
- Isaiah 44:3 NLT

### 1. THE SUBJECTS OF THIS RIVER

*If anyone thirsts...*

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.*  
- Matthew 5:6 ESV

*[Satan said] "Skin for skin. All that a man has he will give for his life."* - Job 2:4 ESV

### 2. THE SOURCE OF THIS RIVER

*Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'*

*I will stand before you on the rock at Mount Sinai. Strike the rock, and water will come gushing out. Then the people will be able to drink." So Moses struck the rock as he was told, and water gushed out as the elders looked on.* - Exodus 17:6 NLT

*Num. 20:8–11; Deut. 8:15; Neh. 9:15; Ps. 78:15, 16, 20; 105:41; 114:8; Isa. 43:20; 48:21*

*[All] of them drank the same spiritual water. For they drank from the spiritual rock that traveled with them, and that rock was Christ.* - 1 Corinthians 10:4 NLT

*Joel 3:18; Zechariah 14:6; Ezekiel 47:1; Revelation 22:1-2; John 2:16, 19*

*John 19:34*

### 3. THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS RIVER

*Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

*And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. <sup>29</sup> Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit. - Joel 2:28-29 ESV*

#### WHAT THIS WATER OF THE SPIRIT DOES

- IT ENRICHES.
- IT EMPOWERS.
- IT CLEANSSES.
- IT FLOWS.

### 4. THE SECRET OF THIS RIVER

*...let him come to me and drink.*

*The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." Let anyone who hears this say, "Come." Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life. - Revelation 22:17 NLT [see also Revelation 21:6; Isaiah 55:1]*

*Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." - John 4:10 ESV*

## MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK...

- Memorize **John 7:38**.
- Drink deeply from the River of God and allow that River to flow through me.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

# WALK THE TALK

## A Small Group Guide

**Read John 7:37-52.**

1. What was your favorite place to swim when you were growing up? A stream, a pool, a lake, a beach? What do you like most about water?
2. Read Ezekiel 47:1-12.
  - Why could this be the reference Jesus had in mind when he said “as the Scripture has said” in John 7:38?
  - Where does the river start? Why is that important in relationship to Jesus being the new Temple?
  - What is important about its growing depth? What happens to the Dead Sea when its waters flow into it?
  - How does verse 12 speak of its power and its properties? How is this River like the one in Revelation 22?
3. Read Exodus 17:1-7.
  - Why could this be the reference Jesus had in mind?
  - How does real human need sometimes harm the way we respond to it?
  - How does this stricken rock, on which the Lord stood, become an image of Jesus in the New Testament?
  - What does this lesson teach on stress? Obedience? Trust?
4. Pick one of the four points under the title “There is a River,” above, and share your thoughts on that point.
5. How does the Spirit operate as a river in our lives after Jesus was glorified? Have you experienced its effect in your own life?
6. Read Acts 2:1-12.
  - How does this fulfill John 7:38-39?
  - How does Peter’s message in the verses that follow (Acts 2:14-21) point to this prophecy from Joel?
  - Why do you think God decided to use the unique sign of “speaking in tongues” to convey the fulfillment of Jesus’ promise?