

THIS IS JESUS

UNIT 1: THE MESSIAH NAMED JESUS PART 2: HE IS

Lesson 2: He Is The Living Water

Devotion 1

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John (although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples), he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. And he had to pass through Samaria. (John 4:1-4)

Read John 4:1-4.

For a Jew, going to Samaria was like being asked to wear your oldest set of pajamas to school for picture day. They would not be caught traveling through Samaria even if it meant getting to their destination faster. John makes a note of Jesus' travels so that a reader/hearer during that time would say something like, "Wait, He went THROUGH Samaria!? He didn't walk around!?"

Of course, Jesus didn't hesitate to go right through. He was intent on sharing God's love with all people, because even if the Jews of His day did not view Samaritans as worthy recipients of God's love... God viewed them as worthy recipients.

Pray for God to place on your heart two or three people that you can share the love of God with. Jesus has shown us what it looks like to love those whom others deem unlovable. So, what are you waiting for? Find your Samaria and share His love!

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Devotion 2

Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:13-14)

When was the last time you experienced a simple conversation turn into one about eternal life? Or, are there many people in your life who would even be up for randomly talking about eternal life?

Read John 4:13-14.

This set of verses comes right after Jesus casually asks the Samaritan woman if she could grab Him some water from the well. The next thing you know, BAM! The conversation switches to the Living Water that grants eternal life. Being the only One who can, Jesus offers eternal life to this woman. And He wants to offer you the exact same thing!

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

- Jesus not only offers a 'glass' of Living Water that satisfies our thirst, but promises that we will become a spring of water. What do you think that means?
- How do you witness a spring of Living Water in the lives of other followers of Jesus?

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Devotion 3

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. (Psalm 63:1)

Let's take a moment and think about what happens to us when we are physically dehydrated. Dehydration is very serious, and if it goes on for too long, it can cause permanent damage to our organs (to the point of death). Our skin can dry out from a lack of hydration, and our minds can become easily distracted or foggy. But before all of this happens, our bodies first send us a very important signal: thirst.

Thirst is one of the earliest signs that we are physically dehydrated. It's the signal that our body sends to maintain life.

Read Psalm 63:1.

Our souls also thirst, but in a different way than our bodies do. Our bodies seek a variety of things to satisfy our thirst. Water, juice, soda, some boba tea from that cool new place down the street... Our physical body seeks to maintain life. When it comes to our souls, however, it is only through the source of life (God) that our souls' thirst can be satisfied.

Do you thirst for God? Is your soul sending you an 'SOS' signal to find the Living Water?

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Devotion 4

So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the town and were coming to him. (John 4:28-30)

Read John 4:28-30.

The Samaritan woman was so moved after her conversation with Jesus that she told others about him. She was so enthusiastic in her testimony that several people came out of the town to meet Jesus.

All of us have our own "town of people" that are ready to hear about Jesus. Just like the Samaritan woman, we have a great opportunity to tell others about Jesus and the eternal life that He offers.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

- Think about the first person who told you about Jesus. Someone must have shared the Gospel with them, right? And someone else shared the Gospel with that person! What kind of impact could there be in telling one person (let alone a whole town!) about Jesus?

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Devotion 5

So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.
(John 4:40)

Today, your task will be to compare two verses. First, let's read this verse from Psalm 143.

Read Psalm 143:6 below.

I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.

This type of longing for God can be felt as deeply as the thirst and desperation you would feel if you found yourself stuck in a parched land (like a desert).

Now, read John 4:40.

This verse captures the response of the Samaritans when they met Jesus. They wanted Him to stay with them! And although He only stayed for two days, it's very possible they wanted Him to stay forever.

Spend the rest of your devotional time reflecting on this type of longing for God. The Samaritans knew that Jesus was like finding water in the middle of the desert. He is essential for life. Do you treat Him as essential in your life?