

Small Group / Personal reflection material

LIVING WATER

(14 March 2021)



1. Watch and discuss the “Water of Life” video from the Bible Project:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgmAkM39Zt4>
2. Why do you think the Bible refers to the Spirit or presence of God as water? Why is this significant?
3. How spiritually “thirsty” would you say you are right now?
4. Read Jeremiah 2:10-13. In what ways can you identify with this passage?

Jeremiah 2:10-13:

*“Cross over to the coasts of Cyprus and look,
send to Kedar and observe closely;
see if there has ever been anything like this:
“Has a nation ever changed its gods?
(Yet they are not gods at all.)
But my people have exchanged their glorious God
for worthless idols.*

¹² *Be appalled at this, you heavens,
and shudder with great horror,'
declares the LORD.*

¹³ *'My people have committed two sins:
They have forsaken me,
the spring of living water,
and have dug their own cisterns,
broken cisterns that cannot hold water.*

5. How do you think we try to create our own “cisterns” to contain or manage our supply of life and power rather than relying on God?
6. Reflect on Jesus’ encounter with the woman at the well. What stands out for you most about this narrative and why?

John 4:1-30:

Now when the Lord knew (learned, became aware) that the Pharisees had been told that Jesus was winning and baptizing more disciples than John—

² *Though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples—*

³ *He left Judea and returned to Galilee.*

⁴ *It was necessary for Him to go through Samaria.*

⁵ *And in doing so, He arrived at a Samaritan town called Sychar, near the tract of land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.*

⁶ *And Jacob’s well was there. So Jesus, tired as He was from His journey, sat down [to rest] by the well. It was then about the sixth hour (about noon).*

⁷ *Presently, when a woman of Samaria came along to draw water, Jesus said to her, Give Me a drink—*

⁸ *For His disciples had gone off into the town to buy food—*

⁹ *The Samaritan woman said to Him, How is it that ^[a]You, being a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan [and a] woman, for a drink?—For the Jews have nothing to do with the Samaritans—*

¹⁰ *Jesus answered her, If you had only known and had recognized God’s gift and Who this is that is saying to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him [instead] and He would have given you living water.*

¹¹ *She said to Him, Sir, You have nothing to draw with [no drawing bucket] and the well is deep; how then can You provide living water? [Where do You get Your living water?]*

¹² *Are You greater than and superior to our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well and who used to drink from it himself, and his sons and his cattle also?*

¹³ *Jesus answered her, All who drink of this water will be thirsty again.*

¹⁴ But whoever takes a drink of the water that I will give him shall never, no never, be thirsty any more. But the water that I will give him shall become a spring of water welling up (flowing, bubbling) [continually] within him unto (into, for) eternal life.

¹⁵ The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water, so that I may never get thirsty nor have to come [continually all the way] here to draw.

¹⁶ At this, Jesus said to her, Go, call your husband and come back here.

¹⁷ The woman answered, I have no husband. Jesus said to her, You have spoken truly in saying, I have no husband.

¹⁸ For you have had five husbands, and the man you are now living with is not your husband. In this you have spoken truly.

¹⁹ The woman said to Him, Sir, I see and understand that You are a prophet.

²⁰ Our forefathers worshiped on this mountain, but you [Jews] say that Jerusalem is the place where it is necessary and proper to worship.

²¹ Jesus said to her, Woman, believe Me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither [merely] in this mountain nor [merely] in Jerusalem.

²² You [Samaritans] do not know what you are worshiping [you worship what you do not comprehend]. We do know what we are worshiping [we worship what we have knowledge of and understand], for [after all] salvation comes from [among] the Jews.

²³ A time will come, however, indeed it is already here, when the true (genuine) worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth (reality); for the Father is seeking just such people as these as His worshipers.

²⁴ God is a Spirit (a spiritual Being) and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth (reality).

²⁵ The woman said to Him, I know that Messiah is coming, He Who is called the Christ (the Anointed One); and when He arrives, He will tell us everything we need to know and make it clear to us.

²⁶ Jesus said to her, I Who now speak with you am He.

²⁷ Just then His disciples came and they wondered (were surprised, astonished) to find Him talking with a woman [a married woman]. However, not one of them asked Him, What are You inquiring about? or What do You want? or, Why do You speak with her?

²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went away to the town. And she began telling the people,

²⁹ Come, see a Man Who has told me everything that I ever did! Can this be [is not this] the Christ? [Must not this be the Messiah, the Anointed One?]

³⁰ So the people left the town and set out to go to Him.

7. Read Revelation 21:6-7. How do you think you can take God up on this offer better in your daily life?

Revelation 21:6-7:

"He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. 'Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.'"

8. What is one practical thing you will do in response to what God has revealed to you in this session?
How can the group hold you accountable to it?