

Luke 2:8-14 - 8 Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10 Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

John 4:1-26 1 Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John 2 (though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples), 3 He left Judea and departed again to Galilee. 4 But He needed (Must Needs - KJV) to go through Samaria. 5 So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. 6 Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. 7 A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." 8 For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. 9 Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

She was alone - She went in the middle of the day - noon - hot - should be drawing in the cool of the morning

Drawing water was a women's social event - literally a women community - social event

She must have been desperate to go to the well at noon - slept in after a long night before, or she was a social outcast, women of poor reputation - maybe hopeless, maybe depressed, maybe angry.

She was tired from wandering, not just physically tired, but soul tired. Going from house to house - man to man - 5 husbands - currently one who was not her husband.

Today that is a lot of husbands. We don't know if this is an adulteress relationship - living together, and not married - don't know. Could be an affair, could be sleeping together.

We don't know why five men - could be that she is a black widow, and they keep dying - she keeps killing - they keep kicking her out, she keeps moving on to the greener grass - she could be heart broken or a heart breaker. She use them, or they use her?

Purposeful juxtaposition - Nicodemus and the nobody - insider and the outsider - see venn Diagram

Couldn't get more inside than Nick- politically, religious, morally

She was a nameless woman — Samaritan

After the Assyrians captured Samaria [the capital of the Northern kingdom of Israel] in 722–21 BC, they deported all the Israelites of substance and settled the land with foreigners, who intermarried with the surviving Israelites and adhered to some form of their ancient religion (2 Kings 17–18). After the exile [of the Southern kingdom in Babylon], Jews, returning to their homeland . . . viewed the Samaritans not only as the children of political rebels but as racial half-breeds whose religion was tainted by various unacceptable elements. . . . About 400 BC the Samaritans erected a rival temple on Mount Gerizim. (D. A. Carson, The Gospel According to John, 216)

She comes along and Jesus says - will you give me some water

Chapter 1 - Jesus is the Logos made flesh - here he is tired and thirsty - fully man

7 A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." 8 For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

Disciples are off at Subway or something - Jesus is tired - sitting on the well.

**John 4:7** Jesus took the initiative in speaking to a Samaritan woman—an astonishing break with culture and tradition, showing his desire to save the lost.

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She says, at the end of **verse 9**, "Jews have no dealings with Samaritans." Literally it says, Jews don't "use together" with Samaritans. You can't be asking me to use the same bucket.

She is like "What are you doing, you are a Jew, as soon as you drink from my bucket you will be unclean, defiled, dirty, contaminate. - Why are you even talking to me.

Jesus is blowing past all the stop signs, all the cultural barriers - racial, gender, moral, barriers to talk with her. Outreach

10 Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

Paraphrase - "If you knew who I was, you would have asked me for a drink and I would have given you living water."

There is a double meaning to living water - literal - rushing water from a spring - cool - clean - delicious water - as opposed to a cistern - stagnant water - even well water is ground water - Poland Springs

11 The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? 12 Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"

Do you know about another well? Spring fed well - better than this well from Jacob. This is a good well, this is a faithful well - a lot of water has come from this well, a lot of thirst quenched - human and stock

She is like - Can there be a better well? Had to believe, but if it is so, I am in - where is it? Similar to: How can a man be born again - can he go into His mothers womb?

13 Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

Jesus takes her to the next level - moves from earth to heaven carnal to spiritual— this water will satisfy the body's need, but you will thirst again. Jesus transitions to Spiritual Water - water connected with eternal life - of which when you drink - you will never thirst again!

Jesus says to us, "If you put down the bucket of your soul into any other cause, any other pursuit, any other relationship, or any other comfort, anything else but me ... If you put down the bucket of your soul in any of those things and drink out of those things, you will find yourself getting more and more thirsty."

When you first fall in love, when you first start in on the career you want, when you first taste your bit of professional success - You say, "This is going to quench these desires," and they never do because the desires are such that even the very best mate and the very best job and the very best career just can't quench your thirsty soul.

Jesus the plumber - new fruit from a new root, new water tapped into a new well - Satisfied - never thirst hopelessly again. Prince of Peace - Jesus is addressing the inner-murmur of every human heart. The thirst of every human heart.

The Need is a new source a new fountainhead And this is what Christianity is in its essence it is not merely a philosophy, or ideology, it is a new source all together The problem is that we use religion as a bandaid and the world as a diversion but neither fix the problem

She is still not getting it - still not on the same sheet of music - not

15 The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

She is staying on a physical level - sees a connection to soul - I am thirsty - everyday - and I hate coming here to draw in the heat of the day, under the scorn and rejection of my community. To avoid coming to this well would be a welcome gift. She's touching on the thirst of her soul, that she is reminded of everyday she goes to the well.

Jesus wants her dehydrated, parched, heart to experience refreshment, quenching - God gatorade - is he in you. The heart needs living water - to experience refreshment, hydration, strength, cleansing, functionality - peace - Shalom.

Living water is a metaphor - all through the OT - fresh running supply of the life of God that God offers to us - in us - through us

Jeremiah 2:13 "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."

Two options - first option - to receive the Life of God - His Living Water - His way, purpose, plans, by faith - refreshment - other option is to dig your own cistern - Nic and the Woman - you make your own life for yourself - your version of happiness, your version of hope - our cisterns are cracked, porous, don't hold water, vulnerable to poison, contamination, biological or chemical, have to keep going to the well - whole lot of work

She is like where is this spring - Jesus - I am the Spring - I am the refreshment of God.

Something about Jesus is sparking hope - splashing her with living water - His life - love - mercy - she's sipping on life, and experiencing the hope of peace and joy.

Here comes the surgery - out comes the loving scalpel of Jesus - expose the root system of her life - the central nerve running through her heart. Her cistern.

16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." 17 The woman answered and said, "I have no husband."

She could be saying - I am available - if that was the case - she only knew how to relate with men sexually - flirting, flaunting, flaming

Could be that she really didn't want to talk about it and shut the conversation down - move on

What Jesus says next is GRACE upon GRACE - gentle - velvet hammer

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly."

Jesus answers endearingly, answers commending her - good job, well said, that's my girl.

Imagine being called out like this - you would probably faint. -Jesus says I know your broken cisterns.

She's been trying to keep her life together through men - and it's not working - victim - victimizer

Pop song by Hozier - take me to church - song is not about church - song about sex, and worship, and how churches are trying to keep people from the worship of sex, and the person writing the narrative is angry about it - the song builds to a crescendo - "This is Hungry Work" - Grind

Sex is hungry work - self-salvation is hungry work - seeking soul satisfaction in power, intelligence, acceptance, popularity, financial security, health, beauty, success - is all hungry work - works of desire - works of thirst - and the satisfaction received is always temporary - and vulnerable to total loss in a tragic moment of time.

How is it working for you? Do you have rest for your soul? Has the inner murmur ever gone away? Is your soul wearied by going back to the well, going back to the well, going back to the well, with earbuds in - I can't get no, satisfaction, but I try, and I try, and I try, but I can get no.

Do you go to bed at night - so thankful that Nothing can separate you from the Love of GOD! or are you still thirsty? Are you still full of anxiety - looking for the next drink - dreading the next trip to the well.

We seek to quench our thirst with drink that is too weak. An insatiable thirst on earth, indicates a need for something greater

It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased. CS Lewis, The Weight of Glory

Before I give you living water, lets take a look at what you are drinking, that isn't working. Why? He doesn't want us to have a divided heart - not cistern and spring - just spring - not salt-water in one hand and gatorade in the other. Toss the bad, drink only the good.

He shines the light deep into her soul - He will expose your cistern - He will expose your deep need and His deep love

Psalm 42:1 As the deer longs for streams of water, so I long for you, O God. 2 I thirst for God, the living God.... 7 **Deep calls unto deep** at the noise of Your waterfalls; All Your waves and billows have gone over me. 8 The LORD will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, And in the night His song shall be with me— A prayer to the God of my life.

Deep thirst - requires Deep water - our hearts need strong drink, powerful drink, to experience satisfaction - Love unconditional - Love amazing - Love Divine

She stayed and didn't run away - Jesus could have crushed her, under His righteous perfect condemnation - John 3:17 - Jesus didn't come to condemn, but save the world - offer new life - living water - I came to save you from your broken heart.

Her life was a series of false new beginnings and shattered hopes. He's come to say, I am the way, the truth, and the life, I am here to get you on a new path, headed to a new source of life.

19 The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.

I'm picking up something here, I'm getting that prophet vibe! You are different.

20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship."

She gets dodgy - watch out for that red ball - you might be feeling the same thing - Spirit presses in and you are like - lets change the subject - light of Jesus - starts to make you feel uncomfortable - in your mind - I wish he/she was hear to listen to this - what about the crusades - scandals in the church - what about the oppression of organized religion, and it is just a method to manipulate the masses with guilt and shame to amass a fortune and political power - what about the claim that Christ is the only way, and there are so many other religions out there - dodge - dodge - we would rather debate hot topics - than deal personally with our own heart.

21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 *God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.*"

Jesus cuts to the chase - cuts through all her debate and says its all going to change because of me - True worshippers will worship in Spirit and in Truth - Heaven connected to the Heart - Made right - in Christ -

It doesn't matter about location, it doesn't matter about ethnicity, social class, heritage or moral record. It is connected to the life giving power of the spirit (born again) - and the truth of Jesus - that is how you really worship. - Peace of God will rule and reign in your heart her real thirst is finally exposed - not men, not sexuality, not security, what she has been thirsting for all the time was Jesus - she longed for God

25 The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." 26 Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am *He*."

I am waiting for the messiah, the one who will make it all right - I am thirsting for God, and He alone can quench my thirst. Thirst for love, that no human can supply - God is Love - everlasting unconditional love. He will do more than tell - He will do all things - it is finished

When Jesus talks about his hour, he means the hour of his death. - verse 21

How did all this start - Jesus said I am thirsty., that's not the last time he says, "I thirst," is it? On the cross, at his hour, when he said, "I thirst," it was the big thirst. It was the real thirst.

John 19:28-30- 28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" 29 Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. 30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

In Nahum, it says, "Who can dwell with everlasting burnings? For his justice is poured out like fire."

On the cross, Jesus quotes Psalm 22. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?", and it goes on to say:

Psalm 22:15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.

Here's what he did: He died of thirst so we could have the living water. He had the ultimate spiritual thirst. He died in torment so we could have the cool water of the favor of God.

He became thirst, so we could be satisfied, he dried up so we could overflow, he was dehydrated so we could be reconstituted - Thirst of purpose, love, and peace, quenched

All of us want our souls to be restored - we want peace, we want repair, we want wholeness, the other thing we deeply want to be people that make a difference, that help people, that bring about healing. Our souls long to make an impact - to make a difference in this life - to make a difference in this world

John 4:14 - 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

You become a spring - where you are giving out the life of God to people - hydraulic power - life of God to the world - you not only not thirst - you become a little spring of God Healed and a place of healing. - When you pursue your small, weak, selfish pursuits, short spurts of satisfaction, there is no healing, and there is no help for a hurting world.

No matter how much junk you throw in a spring, it's going to bubble on through, and Jesus is saying, "I can give you, in me, a spiritual purpose, a spiritual love, a spiritual acceptance, a spiritual peace, a spiritual beauty that no matter what happens, no matter how much your family blows up, no matter what you face in this life, no matter what happens in circumstances ... All the junk, all the gunk, you throw it on in there, and the geyser of my joy will push on through."

Become a spring of God - Living Water - be a Jesus Well