

May 24 - Chapter 5. Seek: You Need to be in Need - p.103-122 Men Only

Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell. C. T. Studd

Community Building: Last man standing

First Reading: Read John 4:1-26

1. What does it mean to seek something?
2. Why did the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans?
3. What barriers did Jesus have to overcome to interact with the woman at the well?
4. How did he strategically overcome every barrier?

Second Reading: Christians are known for perpetuating the myth that they have to have it all together all the time. But God purposefully entrusted the treasure of His gospel—the living water—to jars of clay. You and I are broken, earthen vessels, and He chose us to show that power comes from Him alone. Our calling then is to share this gospel, not to achieve some level of societal perfection. In order to live our lives at Godspeed and with gospel intentionality, we will have to learn to give and receive. Most of us are aware that we have something to give. Now we must learn that we have something to receive while living on mission with Christ.

4. Why is it so hard to purposely put yourself in a place of need?
5. What effect did Jesus have on the woman at the well when he asked for a drink of water?
6. What was Jesus establishing with the woman at the well to lead her to Him for salvation?

Third Reading: “The only way to build love between two people, or two groups of people is to be so related to each other as to stand in need of each other.” Marriage, by design, is the perfect illustration of this relationship by mutual need. As long as both partners have legitimate, God-given need for each other—and seek to meet each other’s needs—the marriage will flourish. Conversely, divorce occurs when one or both spouses say, “I don’t need you anymore.” This principle is equally applicable between races, genders, and people groups. When one party says, “We don’t need you,” radical divisions open up. God designed relationships to thrive on mutual need. When we place ourselves in settings of mutual need, we discover that barriers are brought down, relationships develop, and opportunities to communicate the gospel naturally appear.

7. What does it mean for a husband and wife to have mutual need for each other?
8. What does it look like in daily living?

9. Why do relationships thrive on mutual needs?

10. How do we have a mutual need relationship with God?

Fourth Reading: Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” If we care for people from a place of power, we aren’t servants—we’re benefactors.¹¹ Jesus modeled servitude, and a servant, to some degree, must be in need, must depend upon other people. This is why Jesus came as a babe and not as a king. When we look at the life of Jesus, our model, we see that while the foundation of mission is the glory of God, the basis for all mission is humility.

11. What is essential for us to have to be effective on mission for Jesus?

12. How is Jesus our example?

13. What is a simple way to demonstrate humility, and breakdown the barriers that people have preventing them from hearing more about Jesus?

Share with your spouse or a close friend in the Lord: Explain how by being humble, and putting Himself in need Jesus broke down the walls around the woman at the well, and lead her to salvation. Share a way that you could do the same to reach a friend or family member for Christ. **Pray together.**

Next Week: May 31, P. 123-162 6. *Touch: It's Gonna Get Messy* & 7. *Free: Justice for the Guilty Everyone*

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