

Review: Left off last wk when Jesus captivated this woman's att by showing her kindness and with one sentence shattering every cultural norm they had, and completely riveted her attention on Him. (talked to her & drank from her vessel)

hard to keep track of how many barriers Jesus shatters. Jesus takes all their traditions and does the exact opp. Must have been hard for those folks.

We are going to see the masterful, brilliant infinite mind of God here.

After all these times of attacking their false rel., Jesus is now going to reveal true. But he doesn't just announce it out of the blue, He gets this woman to ask Him. (Good model for evangelism)

She asks how it is that he would drink from her vessel.

**JESUS OFFERS  
BETTER WATER  
THE  
PREMINENCE OF  
THE WATER**

1. Better Source (vv.9-12)
2. Better Result (vv.13,14)

**THE  
PREREQUISITE  
FOR THE WATER**  
(dealing with sin)

vv.15-19

- Confrontation
- Response (pride or humility?)

**THE PLACE OF  
THE WATER** (vv.20-24)

**JESUS OFFERS BETTER WATER**

**9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans. )**

**10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God & who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him & he would have given you living water."**

2:20

If only she knew. She thought was just another day getting water. no idea that countless thousands of people would read her words & that people would be preaching & teaching about her 2000 yr. later. Centuries later all have to say is "THE woman ant THE well." & everyone immediately think of her.

talking to God! This convers was one of the most significant conversations that has ever been.

3:26

**The gift of God** (salvation) Just like w/ Nic Jesus points out that she doesn't even know salvation.

"If only knew who I am & what I had to offer, you would have asked me for MY water." Hear this through the ears of that S woman - Jesus is claiming to have better water.

**THE SUPERIORITY OF THE WATER  
(JESUS HAS BETTER WATER)**

Better in 2 ways: better source and better effect

1. Better source: (vv.9-12)

**11 "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw w/ & the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob (negative), who gave us the well & drank from it himself, as did also his sons & his flocks & herds?"**

Listen Mr. JEW, you are in Samaria here are you are looking at the authentic Jacob's well. Don't forget that.

"What you are saying is ridiculous, cuz for that to be true would have to be greater than Jacob."

6:00

Like many people this woman finds herself asking a dumb question: Are you greater than Jacob? Slightly – He created Jacob. But Jesus is patient and says, yes, water that he touched is good, but water I touched is better, because I'm greater

People then had deep reverence for patriarchs. From time to time Jesus made comments that implied he was greater than them - idea was rejected out of hand.

Like someone going to Naperville walking up to someone worshiping bones of St. Theresa & saying, "I'll tell you about a bone that will get you closer to heaven than that whole box of bones, J the Bs index finger, and Mary's holy girdle combined."

If people came to this well cuz magical blessing they would get from the water (cuz the rel sig of Jacob), then Jesus' claim would be a claim to be greater than Jacob - a more religiously sig figure.

Water that Jacob touched is good - water that Jesus touched is better.

8:11

2. Better effect: (vv.13,14)

**13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this**

**water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."**

"Jacob's water is OK, but problem w/ it is when drink it - eventually get thirsty again. My water satisfies – you don't get thirsty again."

Jesus speaking of a religious action that has a permanent effect. The problem w/ ceremonies is they are so temporary – they don't satisfy. You have to constantly repeat & never know if have done enough. Sacrifices had to be repeated again and again.

Peeps who rely on works always wondering "Did I give enough, do I go to church enough," etc.

same thing he talked to Nic about - re-birth -- single event - permanent results

9:50

Think about this – Jesus is offering something that will satisfy the human soul.

There is a movie "The World is Not Enough" What a great sermon title!

Most people spend most of their energy looking for something in life that satisfies, but they can't find it. They can't find it, because they look for it in everything the world has to offer, but the world is not enough. God never made a soul so small that the whole world could satisfy it.

There is a thirst in the human soul that cannot be quenched by this world. Look at her: she was in a religion that brought no satisfaction (Luther confessed for 8 hours - It brought him an incredible sense of release – When that priest said he was absolved, it brought such joy, but before he got back to his room he would think of something else and all his peace was shattered.)

14:10

Obviously she was longing & searching for *something*. Something was missing in her life, and she thought could fill it w/ R-ships with men. But nothing ever satisfied (5 husbands)

She gave up on marriage - looked for satisf. in physical R-ship. That never works either. Living for pleasure is a lose/lose proposition, cuz either boredom or frustration.

Couldn't find it in rel, R-ships, family, pleasure – she can't find it at all.

15:00

He problem was her soul was thirsty. There is only one thing that can satisfy thirst. Next time you are thirsty, try to satisfy it w/o drinking. Try putting sand in mouth, standing on head, counting to 100, meditating on a picture of water, etc.

Man has a basic problem. On earth there is no such thing as satisfaction. Every fix is temporary. We don't even know what it is (both dictionaries say satisf.=gratification & grat. See sat. – dict loop) They don't know what it means, because they haven't experienced satisfaction. They haven't experienced S, nobody has in this earth, because this world is not enough, but Jesus says, “Woman, I have something that will satisfy.”

16:15

Results are dramatic: **welling up** not normal word for spring. Means to suddenly jump up. a vigorous, almost violent concept. The abundant life Jesus offers is no tame, stagnant thing - not a drinking fountain in you - it's more like a geyser.

**15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water**

17:20

It's interesting to see what Jesus *doesn't* do next. You don't see Jesus say, “Great! Another convert! You want the water - here it is. Repeat after Me: “Dear God, come into my heart...”

Jesus often does this – puts an obstacle in front of someone. He would flunk evangelism class - doesn't know how to get closure.

Why? She isn't ready. She had a problem that a lot of people have today. They approach God only wanting something. People use that as an evangelism strategy. “Want the abundant life?” “Sure” “Here it is.”

“You've tried a lot of highs? Get high on Jesus.”

“Yeah man, sounds fat.”

“Want God to solve your problems or give you X? Sign up.”

“Accept” Is that the best word to describe coming to God in repentance?

19:19

**give me this water so that I won't get thirsty & have to keep coming here to draw water.”**

for her, the main significance is not having to make the trip to the well - to eliminate a chore. Like many today, falls into the trap of thinking the main purpose of spiritual blessing is some physical benefit here and now – Do you ever fall into that? Are most of your prayers about temporal things?

Often we don't even consider spiritual things, and when we do, we only look at them in light of how they affect our physical situation.

so hard for us sometimes to get our focus off this world. She can't. Jesus is talking to her about eternal, spiritual realities, & all she can think of is, “Oh, that would really help out w/ the chores.”

There is more to salvation than just accepting benefits from God. This woman still lacked something. There is a prerequisite for getting this water. What is it? v.16

20:55

**Jn.4:16 He told her, "Go, call your husband & come back."**

Imagine the tension this would cause.

Why does he do this? Why? Do you have to have your husband there to become a Christian? He never made anyone else get their husband or wife.

Jesus always knows what this issue is in each heart. (rich young ruler)

Prerequisite = The right attitude toward God re: sin.

Jesus gives her the opportunity to repent, but she passes it up.

23:04

**17 "I have no husband," she replied.**

She had this quick little answer she had come up w/. "I'm unmarried - just a single gal."

She wants to get on w/ talking about this water.

What Jesus does next is unthinkable (for us). He brings up her sin. He doesn't say, "I can see this is a touchy subject, let's just talk water." He zeros in on exactly what she wanted to hide.

**Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, & the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."**

When Jesus repeats her words, he changes the word order:

She says "I don't have a husband."

Jesus says "You're right when you say, 'I don't have a husband.'"

So often people only on the fact that Jesus reached out to an outcast. But Jesus was not only polite & positive w/ her. He did something that is unthinkable for us. To bring up someone's sin? Someone you just met? To bring up her divorces? To mention her adultery? Most people (even in churches) probably many in this church - would say this is despicable.

People who are divorced don't want to talk about it. Certainly not here. Can you imagine what that was like? Can you picture coming up to someone you never met: "Can I have a drink of water out of your thing?" "Sure" "BTW - Let's talk about your divorces and adultery."

He's not being very seeker sensitive.

25:14

The most loving thing you can do for someone is to bring them to a realization of their sin & to deal very seriously w/ unrepentant sin.

Jesus won't let her steer the conver. away from her sin. He forces her to take a look in the mirror.

"2 revelations in Xianity: the rev of God & the rev of ourselves. No man ever really sees himself until he sees himself in the presence of Christ; & then he is appalled at the sight. There is another way of putting it--Christianity begins w/ a sense of sin"

- Response (pride vs. humility)  
can always tell the heart of faith by how responds to sin.

the heart of unbelief will react in anger,  
the heart of faith will acknowledge its guilt.

What does the woman do?

26:50

**19 "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet."**

Does she fly off the handle - "If you knew my 5th husband and how I grew up..."

She is saying, "You are right."

It's not enough just to admit our sin. How you respond to that knowledge is crucial. 2 ways:

1. PRIDE – I'm going to make it up to God. I need to do some religion (the sin is so small, I can take care of it myself)

2. HUMILITY - I can't (brokenness)

28:45

**THE PLACE OF THE WATER** (vv.20-24)

**20 Our fathers W on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must W in Jerusalem."**

Where did *that* come from?

I don't think changing the subject (Jesus wouldn't allow that). I think it follows just fine. Remember - only solution these people had for sin was sac. Jesus pins her down in an area of sin, she acknowledges it, & immediately she asks a Q about the appropriate place to make a sacrifice.

She had been raised to regard Mt Gerizim as most sacred spot in the world & to despise Jer.

The "our fathers" is a ref to Abe building an altar there in Gn.12:7, Jacob in Gn.33:20, the spot where the people were blessed when they entered the promised land (Dt.27:4). They also believed that many other important events happened there. They had 13 different names that they took to be names for this mountain (such as "the house of God," etc.), so whenever they saw one of those names they interpreted it to be talking about Gerizim. The result was almost every significant event happened there.

She was saying to herself: "I am a sinner - must offer to God an offering for my sin; I must take that offering to the house of God to put myself right w/ him; I'm going straight to...(what can she say? He doesn't believe in Gerizim, but she's not going to the dunghill)

That's why she asks where to go. She wants to go make it up to God, and she wants to know

where God is, so she can go there. Where do you find this satisfaction?

**21 Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will W the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. The issue is not "our fathers" but "the Father"**

Jesus teaches about true worship. That is the heart of the issue with salvation. A Christian is not someone who accepts God, it's someone who worships God.

33:20

**22 You Samaritans W what you do not know; we W what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming & has now come when the true Wors will W the Father in spirit & truth, for they are the kind of Wers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, & his Wers must W in spirit & in truth."**

The issue was not the place of W, but the WorshippER.

**in spirit & truth** God is Spirit, so there is only one place to W Him - a spiritual place. If he were wood, could W at an wooden idol, if he were stone, could W at a stone shrine, if He were some material thing, then you could go to some physical place and He would be there.

34:35

**CONCLUSION:**

By the way Jn. tells the story, I think he is making a point for the readers: thirst of the soul for God

Jesus provides the water of life – What water is to your parched, dry mouth, Jesus is to your parched, dry soul.

We know this, yet we seek satisfaction in every other place. upset cuz you aren't getting fulfillment from your marriage - not getting F from your M cuz God never designed F to come from M. M is a place for ministry.

“I’m not happy w/ my kids/job etc.” and we run off for counseling. There is a thirst in our souls for Christ - we try to fill it with family, friends, activity, work, recreation, money, fun, religion. We try everything in the world, but the world is not enough.

“I’ll be happy when I’m 16...married...job...kids...house...career...retire...wish I were young again.”

We can know satisfaction - but only if we realize what we are thirsty for. When we seek satisfaction from R-ships, pleasure, eating, recreation, religion, etc., we will never be satisfied - will get thirstier and thirstier. (Like saying, “I’m so thirsty, I tried eating a handful of dust, but I’m *still* thirsty! I swallowed some lint, but it just didn’t seem to quench that thirst.”

TT Jer.2

Seeking satisfaction in the wrong place is not only foolish, but a serious sin. It is the motivation behind idolatry

**Jer.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.**

(Really it *is* idolatry - the role of Provider is God’s alone. Trying to fulfill longing of your soul through other sources is an offense against God, it’s like if you are married, and you try to fulfill your physical desires outside of your marriage.)

TT Ps.62

There are Christians, who, when they get depressed, go to the refrigerator, or to the TV, or to psychology, or to entertainment, or to bed. Faithfulness to God means you go to Him.

**Ps 62:1 My soul finds rest in God *alone*;**

**2 He *alone* is my rock**

**5 Find rest, O my soul, in God *alone*; my hope**

**comes from him. 6 He *alone* is my rock and my salvation**

**10 Do not trust in extortion or take pride in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them. 11 One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, O God, are strong, 12 and that you, O Lord, are loving.**

God is strong, and He is loving. That’s all I need to know when I’m in trouble. That’s my water, that’s where I find satisfaction – That’s what will quench the longing of my soul.

40:00

have to realize that the only thing that will quench your longings is the thing you’re longing 4

What is it? Jn.7:37 - **Let everyone who is thirsty come to me**

OUR THIRST IS FOR GOD

**Ps.63:1 O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.**

**5 My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods...6 On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night.** (Like Josiah waking up thirsty)

**Isa.26:9 My soul yearns for you in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for you.**

**Ps.84:2 My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.**

**Ps.143:6 my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

Amos 8:11-13 God says there will be a drought of God’s Word, and even young men will pass out

**Ps.73:25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.**

No place has anything else that interests me.

HE WILL SATISFY

**Ps.36:8 They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of**

**delights. 9 For with you is the fountain of life;**

**Ps.17:14,15 You still the hunger of those you cherish; their sons have plenty, and they store up wealth for their children. 15 And I--in righteousness I will see your face; when I awake, I will be satisfied with seeing your likeness.**

The promise was that the chosen people would draw water w/ joy from the wells of salvation (Isa 12:3). God's promise was: "I will pour water on the thirsty land" (Isa 44:3). Ezekiel had had his vision of the river of life (Eze 47:1-12). In the new world there would be a cleansing fountain opened (Zech 13:1). The waters would go forth from Jerusalem (Zech 14:8).

**Ps.37:4 Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

**Ps.103 - satisfies your desires with good things**

**Isa.55:1,2 "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. 2 Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.**

Another way to read the 23rd Ps. - "The Lord is my Shepherd, He is all I want - He's all I need."

44:00

How to know this satisfaction? Repent of your sin, and respond in humility.

So the Lord illustrates our need for salvation with our physical need for water. Then He switches to another illustration. You need more than water (probably none of you just had water Thursday). To be satisfied and fulfilled you need food, and Jesus picks up on that later in the ch.