

Developing A Life of Prayer

EDGEMONT BIBLE CHURCH

3/9/2022

“For the Water of Life”

I. Our Participants

A. Christ

1. His Humanity

- a. Was wearied – vs 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.*
- b. Was thirsty – vs 7 *A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink."*
- c. Was hungry
 - i. vs 8 *For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. vs 32 But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know."*
 - ii. *Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. – vs 34*

2. He Always Doing that which pleases the Father – 8:29

- a. The practice of Jews to avoid Samaria
 - i. They would travel across the Jordan to go north to Galilee
 - ii. Jewish men would not normally speak to women, but especially a Samaritan – vs 9
- b. Jesus going where and to whom the Father sent Him
 - i. *He left Judea and departed again to Galilee. But He needed to go through Samaria. So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar (Shechem – Ge 48:22; Jos 24:32), near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. – vs 3-5*
 - ii. *"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. – vs 23*

B. The Woman at the Well

1. She is an outcast

- a. She was getting water at an abnormal time - *It was about the sixth hour – vs 6d*
- b. She had been married five times and was presently living with a guy – vs 16-18
- c. When she went into the city, she spoke to the men – vs 29

2. She was Religious

- a. Recognized that Jesus was a prophet – vs 19
- b. Knew about a coming Messiah – vs 25

II. Divine Appointments

A. Opening the conversation – vs 7

1. Sometimes a prayer time is instigated by God
 1. Moses and the burning bush

2. Paul on the road to Damascus
 2. Jesus asking for water – vs 7 - The question stimulates a conversation that leads to life
- B. The First stage - vs 9-14
1. Getting past Ethnic barriers – vs 9
 2. Introduction of Spiritual using the physical – vs 10
 1. What you don't know – vs 10 *"If you knew*
 - i. *the gift of God*
 - ii. *who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,*
 2. What would have happened
 - i. *' you would have asked Him*
 - ii. *and He would have given you living water."*
 3. Getting past human reason – vs 11-14
 - a. Reasonable conclusions
 - i. *"Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep.*
 - ii. *Where then do You get that living water?*
 - b. Comparisons – vs 12-14
 - i. Hers - *"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?"*
 - ii. His - *"Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, "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."*
 4. Application to Prayer – our perception can hinder us
 - a. Sometimes, we don't know what we don't know!
 - b. Sometimes, we look at God as constrained by that which would constrain us!
 - c. Sometimes, we have thoughts that block our understanding of a greater truth!
- C. The second stage – vs 15-18
1. A willing but not yet ready heart – vs 15 – everyone wants the benefits w/o dealing w/ responsibility
 - a. *"Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."* – Still stuck on the material
 - b. *Jas 4:3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.*
 2. Somethings must be dealt with first – sin – vs 16-18
 - a. *"Go, call your husband, and come here."*
 - b. *"I have no husband."*
 - c. *"You have well said, 'I have no husband,'*
 - i. *"for you have had five husbands,*
 - ii. *the one whom you now have is not your husband*
 3. Application to Prayer – our sins hinder prayer
 - a. Sometimes, we want the right thing for the wrong reason!
 - b. Sometimes, we the wrong reason has shown itself in other areas of our life and we didn't see the correlation!
 - c. Sometimes, *Ps 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear.*

- i. Iniquity – that sinful bent that shows itself in every area of our life
- ii. Doesn't mean known intentional sin.

D. The third stage – vs 19-26

1. Getting a clue, but still not there – vs 19 *"Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.*
2. Objection # 1 and God keeping us on track - vs 20-24
 - a. *"Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship."*
 - b. *"Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.*
 - i. *"You worship what you do not know;*
 - ii. *we know what we worship,*
 - iii. *for salvation is of the Jews.*
 - c. True worship
 - i. *"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.***
 - ii. *"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*
3. Objection # 2 and Needed Revelation – vs 23-24
 - a. *"I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things."*
 - b. *"I who speak to you am He."*
4. Application to Prayer – our perception can hinder us
 - a. Sometimes, we don't see God for who He really is!
 - b. Sometimes, our traditions and unbiblical beliefs can get in the way of real understanding!
 - c. If God is seeking those who worship in spirit and truth, then that is what we need to be seeking

III. Answered Prayer Affects more than the One Praying – vs 28-30, 39-42

A. Answered Prayer – vs 28-29

1. Answered Prayer helps us to see what's important - *The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city*
2. Answered Prayer encourages others to ask and receive - *and said to the men, "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?"*

B. It's Affect on Others – vs 30, 39-42

1. Curiosity - *Then they went out of the city and came to Him.*
2. Encouraged Faith - *And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did."*
3. Personal Faith Increased –
 - a. *So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days.*
 - b. *And many more believed because of His own word.*
 - c. *Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."*

IV. What about the Disciples – vs 8, 27, 31-38

A. Still Hung up on the Physical –

1. Ethnicity and Gender – vs 27 - *And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?"* – vs 9 if it was a thing for her, it was a thing for them
2. Food – vs 8, 31-33
 - a. They had gone into the city to buy food – vs 8
 - b. They came back to give Jesus food
 - i. vs 31 *In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat."*
 - ii. *He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know."* – vs 32
 - iii. *"Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?"* – vs 33

B. Introduction to Answered Prayer that they didn't Pray – vs 34-39

1. Doing God's will - 34 *Jesus said to them, "My food is*
 - a. *to do the will of Him who sent Me,*
 - b. *and to finish His work.*
2. Benefiting from the work (prayer) of others
 - a. Learn to see things as God sees them
 - i. Does God have to answer your prayers the way you think it needs to happen - 35 *"Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!"*
 - ii. The one praying and the answer are both part of God's plan - 36 *"And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together."*
 - b. Sometimes, you are God's answer to someone else's prayer
 - i. 37 *"For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.'*
 - ii. 38 *"I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."*