

JOHN 4:4-26

REVIEW...

- **JOHN 2:13-25 - GOING UP TO JERUSALEM...**
 - A family tradition - Jesus went with His mother and brothers to the Passover...
 - Jesus got angry and drove out the money changers with a whip...
 - They were making God into a way to make money - keeping people from the truth...
- **JOHN 3:1-21 - BORN FROM ABOVE...**
 - A man named Nicodemus came to Jesus at night to ask if He was from God...
 - Jesus told him - you must be 'born from above' - to see the Kingdom of God...
 - Jesus explained you had to be born twice - water and the spirit...
 - God so LOVED the world He sent Jesus to take away our sins...
 - If we believe in Him we will not be judged - because we are forgiven...
 - But many do not believe because they LOVE darkness / sin - so hate Jesus
- **JOHN 3:22-4:3 - I MUST DECREASE...**
 - Jesus and John where both baptizing in the Jordan River after the Passover...
 - A certain Jew was baptized by Jesus' disciples - began an argument with John's disciples
 - The disciples of John began to complain because Jesus was baptizing more than John!
 - John responded to his disciples...
 - 1st - All we have we received from above - God created the church to be very diverse...
 - 2nd - John did not preach himself - he came preaching Jesus (*bride and bridegroom*)
 - 3rd - Jesus is above all - He is from heaven / He is the only authority / He is salvation!

LIVING WATER... (4 THINGS)

- **1ST - THE NEED TO GO THROUGH SAMARIA... VS. 4-5**
 - 1st - Samaria was the located between Jerusalem and the Galilee...
 - It was the most direct route for Jesus and His disciples to take home...
 - But Jews went out of their way in order to avoid Samaria - it was not safe for Jews...
 - In fact later on in Jesus' ministry the Samaritan would refuse to let Jesus through...
 - **Luke 9:53** - "The people of [Samaria] refused to have anything to do with Jesus..."
 - 2nd - The history of Samaria...
 - After King Solomon - Israel divided into two nations - Northern & Southern...
 - The Northern Kingdom became know as Samaria - named after its capitol city...
 - The Northern Kingdom was conquered by Assyria in 722 B.C - **II Kings 17:23**
 - The Assyrians took the Israelites and scatter them to other conquered countries...
 - Then took captives from other countries and placed them in Israel...
 - Wild animals began to kill the people - cause they did not know how to 'worship God'...
 - So Assyria allowed some of the Israelites to return to teach the people about God...

- This mixed people/religion - became the 'Samaritans' of the New Testament...
- o 3rd - Why the Jews hated the Samaritans...
 - Dating back to when the Jews returned from the Babylonian captivity 516 B.C....
 - The Samaritans wanted to help rebuild the Temple - **Ezra 4:1-5** - but were not allowed
 - **Ezra 4:4** - "Then the people of [Samaria] tried to discourage... [the Jews] in building..."
 - The Samaritans went on to oppose the rebuilding of Jerusalem - **Nehemiah 4:22**
 - There after there was a constant tension and distrust between the two nations
- o 4th - But Jesus NEEDED to go through Samaria - and came to the city of Sychar...
 - It was the same place where Jacob had bought a plot of land - **Genesis 33:19**
 - The city had been called Shechem - one of the 6 cities of refuge - **Joshua 20:7**
 - But now it was called Sychar - meaning the city of drunks...
 - The point is this was a place that DID NOT know about God - they NEEDED Jesus!
 - To many 'Christians' today try to stay as far as they can from sinners...
 - To them church should be a 'social gathering' for Godly people just like them...
 - But the church is not for social club for saints - it is a hospital for sinners...
 - We cannot be afraid to go and get our hand dirty - sinners need our help!
 - Not that we join in with them - we need to be careful not to fall back into the world...
 - But we reach out to them - showing them the Love of Jesus!
- 2ND - JESUS WAS TIRED / THIRSTY / AND HUNGRY... VS. 6-8
 - o 1st - Jesus was tired from His journey - so He sat down by Jacob's well...
 - When we think of Jesus - we often get the impression He never stopped / rested / slept
 - But the Gospel of John - more than any other Gospel - shows us the humanity of Jesus...
 - Jesus was fully God / but also fully man - so after a long journey He was tired...
 - Serving Jesus does not mean that we will never be tired - or worn out...
 - In fact being a Christian is hard work - and there are times when we need to 'rest'...
 - We need to find / take the time - to recharge our batteries so we do not wear out!
 - o 2nd - Jesus was thirsty - it was 6pm - when people came to draw water for dinner...
 - The suggestion is there was nothing at the well to draw with - no bucket or rope...
 - Jesus could raise the dead / He could calm the storm / He could multiply the loaves...
 - Certainly He could have performed a miracle to get water out of that well...
 - But instead Jesus asked a local woman to give Him a drink...
 - God can miraculously provide for our needs - like manna from heaven...
 - But He can also take care of us through the kindness of others...
 - Sometimes it is just matter of having the humility to ask for help
 - o 3rd - Jesus was hungry - so the Disciples had gone into town to buy food...
 - Again Jesus could have done something miraculous to get food...
 - But instead He just sent the disciples to the market to buy what they needed!
 - The most common way God provides - we work to put food on the table...
 - **II Thessalonians 3:10** - "If anyone will not work, neither will he eat."

● 3RD - ONLY THE LIVING WATER SATISFIES... VS. 9-15

- o 1st - The woman was surprised Jesus talked to her... vs. 9
 - Why would you a Jew - ask me a Samaritan - for water / Jews hate Samaritans...
 - Jesus was not afraid to cross boundaries - He was willing to talk to anyone...
 - The person you know who is a Mormon / Iglesia ni Cristo / or JW...
 - Perhaps you have hesitated talking to them - they are from 'that group'...
 - But they need Jesus just as much as the next person - so step out and start talking...
- o 2nd - Ask for Living Water... vs. 10-12
 - Jesus challenged her - if you knew the gift of God you would ask for Living Water...
 - Jesus was not talking about physical water - but about the gift of salvation...
 - **Revelation 22:1** - "A pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb."
 - Like His conversation with Nicodemus - Jesus ignored her question...
 - And went right to the heart of the matter - how to receive eternal life!
 - How do you share the Gospel with someone - just start talking about life...
 - Maybe you ask about the weather - are talk about the local well...
 - Once the conversation begins - you can then turn it towards Jesus!
 - The woman did not understand - Jesus had nothing to draw water with...
 - The well was VERY deep - 41 meters - so how could Jesus get this 'water'...
 - She asked if Jesus thought He was greater than our Father Jacob who dug the well...
 - She was only thinking about her immediate physical needs...
 - We need to be patient when we share the Good news - people do not understand...
 - They spent all their lives living for the moment - only thinking about money / food...
 - When we begin to talk about eternity - we will tend to confuse them at first
- o 3rd - Never thirsty again... vs. 13-15
 - Jesus told the woman - if you drink from the well - you would be thirsty again...
 - But the Living Water - will spring up in you a fountain of eternal life!
 - You will never EVER be thirsty again / the woman demanded - 'give me this water!'
 - That way she would not have to come to the well - she still did not understand...
 - Jesus was showing her - the things of this world can never satisfy...
 - If we seek pleasure - it is never enough - satisfaction is only for a moment...
 - I love chocolate chip cookies - when I was a kids I would eat them all...
 - I could never eat just one - I always wanted one more - then one more...
 - Till I was sick because of all the cookies - and still I wanted more!
 - If we seek after possession - it never seems to be enough - we always want more...
 - One of the richest men who ever lived - J.D. Rockefeller was asked...
 - 'How much is enough' - his answer - 'Just a little bit more'...
 - Most think this world has the answers - it lures us in with false hopes and promises
 - Then leaves us empty inside - never fulfilled - always wanting more!
 - Only Jesus can satisfy...
 - No matter how many times we drink from the 'water of the world' - thirsty again...
 - Ever noticed how the things of this world only seem to satisfy for a moment...
 - How many times have we said - 'if I could only have _____ I would be happy'...
 - And when we get what we wanted - happy for a moment - then we want more...

- Only when we drink from the living water Jesus offers – are we truly satisfied!

- 4TH - HOW TO RECEIVE LIVING WATER... vs. 16-26

- o 1st - Jesus told the woman to go and call her Husband... vs. 16-18
 - The woman was quick to answer that she was not married...
 - Jesus was just ask quick to reply - 'you have said well you have no husband'...
 - She had been married five times - and was now living unmarried with a 6th man!
 - This woman had been looking for answers in relationships...
 - But from one man to the next she had been disappointed - left empty / thirsty...
 - Jesus showed it had not worked - she had not found the answer she was looking for!
 - There are many people who strive to find happiness in a relationship...
 - Men and women will abandon their families - thinking the grass is greener!
 - King Solomon had 1000 wives - he REALLY tried to find happiness in relationships!
 - But Solomon learned it was like chasing after the wind - Ecclesiastes 2:1-11...
 - Looking for happiness – answers to life in relationships - is chasing the wind...
 - You are not chasing something that is hard to catch - there is nothing there to catch!
 - Jesus showed revealed her thirst...
 - The only way to receive the 'water of life' is for someone to show you are thirsty...
 - If you think you are ok - then you are not going to see your need for Jesus...
 - It is when we shine the light of God's word - revealing sin...
 - That people realize their great need to repent - and receive the gift of forgiveness!
- o 2nd - Changing the subject... vs. 19-24
 - Like shining a light into the darkest corner - the woman did not like what Jesus exposed
 - So she tried to change the subject - 'I think you are a prophet'...
 - We Samaritans believed God has to be worshiped at Mt. Gerizim in Samaria...
 - Because that is where the Blessing of the Law were read - **Deuteronomy 27:12**
 - You Jews teach (*in accordance to the Law*) - God has to be worshiped in Jerusalem...
 - She tried to get Jesus to argue about theology - rather than her look at her sins...
 - When people are convicted - they try to change the subject - talk about religion...
 - You are a Baptist / we are catholic - you sprinkle / we dunk...
 - But in reality they are just trying to change the subject because they are convicted!
 - The hour is coming when you will not worship God at Gerizim or Jerusalem...
 - True worshipers - will worship in spirit and in truth...
 - God is not concerned about 'where' we worship - but that we worship Him!
 - God is seeking those who are willing to worship in Sprit - knowing the truth...
 - God is Spirit - and those who worship him MUST worship in spirit and truth...
 - God is not concerned about our differences - traditions - ceremonies - or religion...
 - What day to gather to worship / the name on the sign over the church...
 - He just desires a relationship with us - God is all about a true relationship...
- o 3rd - Receiving the Messiah... vs. 25-26
 - The Samaritan woman answered - I know the Messiah / Christ is coming...
 - When He comes He will tell us everything - how to worship / how to be saved...
 - Jesus answered - 'I am the Messiah / Christ'!
 - We NEED to go through Samaria - go tell even those we do not like about Jesus...
 - Take the time to sit down and talk to people - just start a conversation...
 - Then take the opportunity to tell them about Jesus...

- Patiently showing them the emptiness in their heart - their need for salvation...
- Passing by the emptiness of religion - to finally let them see Jesus!