

When Love Speaks: Seven Words from the Cross

“THE WORD OF HUMANITY”

Pastor Chuck Wysong

Sunday, April 3, 2011

“After this, Jesus knew that everything had been completed. So that the Scripture would come true, he said, ‘I am thirsty.’ There was a jar full of vinegar there, so the soldiers soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a branch of a hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ mouth.” John 19:28-29 (NCV)

THE THIRST OF JESUS

- **IT SHOWS THAT HE WAS REALLY HUMAN**

“Jesus gave up his place with God and made himself nothing. He was born to be a man and became a servant. And when he was living as a man, he humbled himself and was fully obedient to God, even when that caused his death on a cross.” Philippians 2:7-8 (NCV)

- **IT SHOWS THAT HE REALLY WAS THE PROMISED SAVIOR**

“When I was thirsty they offered me vinegar.” Psalm 69:21 (NIV)

“Take a branch of the hyssop plant, dip it into the bowl filled with blood, and then wipe the blood on the sides and tops of the doorframes.” Exodus 12:22 (NCV)

- **IT SHOWS HOW MUCH HE REALLY LOVES ME**

“God demonstrated his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8 (NIV)

SATISFYING YOUR THIRST

“The time is coming when I will send famine on the land. People will be hungry, but not for bread; they will be thirsty, but not for water. They will hunger and thirst for a message from the Lord. People will stagger everywhere from sea to sea, searching for the word of the Lord, running here and going there, but they will not find it. Beautiful girls and fine young men will grow faint and weary, thirsting for the Lord's word.” Amos 8:11-13 (NLT)

- **REALIZE WHAT I'M THIRSTY FOR**

“O God, you are my God, and I long for you. My whole being desires you; like a dry, worn-out, and waterless land, my soul is thirsty for you.” Psalm 63:1 (TEV)

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.” Matthew 5:6 (NIV)

- **REALIZE THAT JESUS UNDERSTANDS MY PAIN**

“He took our suffering on himself and felt our pain for us... He was wounded for the wrong we did and crushed for the evil we did. The punishment, which made us well, was given to him, and we are healed because of his wounds.” Isaiah 53:4-5 (NCV)

“Our High Priest understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same temptations we do, yet he did not sin.” Hebrews 4:15 (NLT)

- **STOP LOOKING FOR SATISFACTION EVERYWHERE ELSE**

“My people have done two evils: They have turned away from me, the spring of living water. And they have dug their own wells, which are broken wells that cannot hold water.” Jeremiah 2:13 (NCV)

Jesus said, “People soon become thirsty again after drinking this water. But the water I give them takes away thirst altogether. It becomes a perpetual spring within them, giving them eternal life.” John 4:13-14 (NLT)

“On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, ‘If you are thirsty, come to me! If you believe in me, come and drink!’ For the Scriptures declare that rivers of living water will flow out from within.” John 7:37-38 (NLT)

TIME WITH GOD

Memory Verse: "God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." John 4:24 (NIV)

Monday

Read John 4:1-10 Jesus spoke to a woman at the well. In your own words paraphrase these verses about this story.

In Jesus' day, people were very prejudiced against the Samaritans. In what ways do you struggle with being prejudiced?

Ask God to help you develop closer relationships with people who are thirsty for the living water Jesus offers. Ask Him to reveal to you where you are prejudiced.

Tuesday

Read John 4:11-14. Jesus sought common ground with this woman. He was thirsty.

How can you build common ground with people around you?

Sports Computers Children
 Exercise Scrapbooking Crafts
 Gardening Movies Music
 Other:

Develop an idea list of people outside your normal church friends with whom you can develop a natural friendship that could lead to discussion of spiritual matters:

Wednesday

Read John 4:15-26. Our third point from this past weekend was that Jesus communicated simply and positively. What aspects of Jesus' conversation can you use as a model for your own discussions with searching friends?

The woman attempts to turn the conversation away from herself toward a religious controversy. What do you learn from the way Jesus handles this?

What do you think Jesus means by worshipping God "in spirit and in truth"? How can you do this?

Today, thank God for sending Jesus to you just as He came for this Samaritan woman!

Thursday

Read John 4:27-38. How does obeying the will of God supply similar essentials in your life that food does?

Are you more like the disciples or the woman at this point in your life? Why?

What does it mean that one sows and another reaps? How is this motivating for you?

Ask God to show you which field he is calling you to work in for Jesus and the kingdom of God.

Friday

Read John 4:39-42. Why did the Samaritans originally believe in Jesus (v. 42)?

What new basis did they have for their belief (v. 42)?

How does this parallel your own faith journey?

What can you do to play the role of the Samaritan woman to your own townspeople, so to speak, this week?

Ask God to help you clear up misconceptions people may have about Christ and His message through your words, actions, and attitudes!

Saturday

"God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." John 4:24 (NIV)

Please polish up the memory verse for this week. Please spend time in prayer for this weekend's services. Thanks!