

Feb 3 & 4, 2024

RUN IT BACK

DR. ED NEWTON



Community Bible Church

Sermon Discussion Questions: Feb 4, 2024

Pastor Ed Newton

Title: Wishing Well

Text: John 4:4-14

Target: Living a life that tells the story of Jesus effectively begins with emulating the life of Jesus practically.

- I. **The Reason for Redirection:** “And He **had** to pass **through** Samaria” (Vs.4:4)
 - A. **Calling of Conviction:** “had” (Vs. 4)
 1. Intense Burden
 2. Intentional Blessing
 - B. **Shock of the Statement:** “through Samaria” (Vs. 4)
 1. Cultural Segregation
 2. Religious Ramifications

Question #1: Jesus repeatedly crossed and challenged lines of division created by cultural or religious practices. *How does his example in John 4 challenge the lines of division we experience in our own culture? What are some predominate lines of division that come to mind? How can we be people who overcome these divisions and practically love those on either side?*

- II. **The Core of Connection:** “Jacob’s well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the **sixth hour.**” (Vs. 4:6)
 - A. **Physical Exhaustion:** “Jesus, wearied” (Vs. 6)
 - B. **Personal Hydration:** “sitting beside the well” (Vs. 6)
 - C. **Pointed Occasion:** “sixth hour” (Vs. 6)
 - D. **Perfect Collision:** “A woman from Samaria came to draw water.” (Vs.4:7a)
- III. **The Insight in the Invitation:** Jesus said to her, “**Give me** a drink.” (Vs. 4:7b)
 - A. **Voices Value:** “The **Samaritan woman** said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)” (Vs. 9)
 - B. **Gives Grace:** “If you knew the **gift of God,** and who it is that is saying to you, “Give me a drink,” you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water” (Vs. 10)
 - C. **Exposes Emptiness:** “Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be **thirsty again,**” (Vs. 13)

Question #2: *What dangers arise when individuals lose sight of their worth in God's eyes or embrace a diminished sense of self-value? Have you ever encountered instances where you felt inadequate in your personal life, work, or family? How did God's truth and grace resonate with you during those times?*

Question #3: *In His conversation with the Samaritan woman, Jesus exposes the emptiness within us that only He can satisfy. How does the concept of God as our sustainer and ultimate fulfillment challenge popular notions of self-reliance and independence in today's culture? What practical steps can we take to prioritize seeking God's provision and fulfillment over worldly desires? What role do gratitude and contentment play in this pursuit?*

- IV. **The Source of Salvation:** *“but **whoever** drinks of the water that **I** will give him will **never** be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will **become** in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (Vs. 4:14)*
- A. **Available to All:** *“whoever” (Vs. 14a)*
 - B. **Exclusive to Everyone:** *“the water that I will give” (Vs. 14b)*
 - C. **Sufficient to Satisfy:** *“never be thirsty again” (Vs. 14c)*
 - D. **Outsource of Overflow:** *“become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (Vs. 14d)*

Takeaway: Stop chasing empty wells and stop making your own. (Jeremiah 2:13)

Question #4: *What do you think is the most effective way to encourage and minister to those around us to stop pursuing “empty wells” and discover genuine fulfillment in Christ? In what ways should our lives demonstrate to them true dependence on God and freedom from worldly desires?*

Question #5: *Have you identified an area in your life that feels like an “empty well” where you've sought fulfillment but haven't found it? How can you stop that current pursuit and instead find satisfaction in God? How can our group help support and offer accountability in this area of your life?*