

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Thirst-Quencher” John 19:28-29 March 24/25

Getting Started

There is a thirst within us all that we all long to be forever quenched, causing us at times to search for significance. Settle for something less, stumble in shame, all the while continuing to cause more pain. So, today your “thirst quencher” has a name, but in order to quench your thirst, He had to experience your thirst. With joy today He speaks over your life...”I thirst” so you can boldly say “I’m no longer cursed”.

Read Jeremiah 2:13 and Isaiah 55:1-3. What are these two passages telling us about what humans do when they are trying to satisfy their spiritual thirsts? How have you done this (seeking alternative forms of satisfaction through selfishness, money, work)? How has Jesus met your every need since you met Him?

Going Deeper

- I. The Evidence of Humanity: “knowing that all was now finished” (v. 28)
 - a. Dual Nature: 100% God & 100% Man (Philippians 2:6-9 & Hebrews 2:17)
 - b. Difference between “Empathy vs. Sympathy” (Hebrews 4:15-16)

As humans, we have needs, and we often try to meet those needs in ways that are not pleasing to God. Hebrews 4:15-16 reminds us that Jesus was fully human too. He felt the same needs, yet never gave in to sin in His pursuit of fulfillment. Look at verse 16 again. What should we do when we are tempted toward sin and away from God? How can we help one another within our group to accomplish this strategy?

II. The Effects of Agony: “I Thirst” (v. 28)

- a. Spiritually: (Psalm 42:1-2, Psalm 63:1)
- b. Physically: (John 4:14, John 7:38-39)

God designed our physical bodies to thirst for water in order to remind us to thirst for Him spiritually. **Read Psalm 42:1-2.** Close your eyes and try to picture what this deer looks like as it approaches the water and then begins to drink. How does that picture show you what your spiritual thirst should look like? How do you satisfy your spiritual thirst? (walks in nature, prayer, bible reading, spiritual discussions with other Christians, meditation, service, fasting, etc)?

III. The Exactness in Prophecy: “to fulfill the Scripture (v. 28)

- a. The betrayal by a familiar friend: (Ps. 41:9)
- b. The forsaking of the disciples: (Ps. 31:11)
- c. False accusations (Ps. 35:11)
- d. Silence before His critics (Isa 53:7)
- e. Numbered with transgressors (Isa 53:12)
- f. Being crucified (Ps. 22:16)
- g. Mockery of the spectators (Ps. 109:25)
- h. Gambling for His garments (Ps. 22:18)
- i. Prayer for His enemies (Isa 53:12)
- j. Received a Drink: Psalm 69:21

“Bible scholars tell us that nearly 300 references to 61 specific prophecies of the Messiah were fulfilled by Jesus Christ. The odds against one person fulfilling that many prophecies would be beyond all mathematical possibility. It could never happen, no matter how much time was allotted. One mathematician’s estimate of those impossible odds is “one chance in a trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion.”³ Lee Strobel, *The Case for Faith* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000), 262.

What is your reaction to this research about the authenticity of Jesus being who He said He was and doing what it was prophesied that He would do?

IV. The Everlasting Sufficiency: “hyssop branch” (v. 29)

- a. Refused the 1st Cup: “Bitterness” (Mark 15:23)
- b. Requested the 2nd Cup: “Blessing” (John 19:29)

Read Hebrews 12:2. Was Jesus bitter about dying on the cross to pay for our sins? Did He do it begrudgingly? No. This verse tells us that it was for the JOY set before Him. He saw the blessing that was to come to our account and our lives and chose to suffer and die for us on the cross. To see how we should respond to Him, **see 2 Corinthians 5:21.** What does it look like to you to live your life as the righteousness of God? If you knew you were declared righteousness, how would that change your view toward fulfilling your needs in any way other than Jesus?

Take Away:

There are two cups on the table both appear to be available. One is labeled “bitterness” and the other is labeled “blessing”, but don’t be deceived for there is only one you should receive. See, the cup of “Bitterness” will go down easy and smooth, but will eventually make a complete fool out of you. Drink deep of the cup of “blessing” for it will never run dry, for Jesus is your never ending supply.

Prayer Requests

Pray for the salvation of the thousands who will attend CBC next weekend during our Good Friday and Easter services.