



STREAMS OF LIVING WATER

Invite someone from the group to share their faith story. A helpful approach to sharing a testimony is to focus on life before Jesus, meeting Jesus, and life since coming to saving faith in Jesus. Then take some time to encourage and pray for that person. If time allows, share evidences of God's grace that you have observed this past week.

OPENING COMMENT

In the Gospel of John he wants his readers to unmistakably and undeniably know that Jesus is not *just* someone who was sent *from* God as a great prophet or teacher or an upstanding moral person, but that Jesus *is* very God who came from heaven, in human flesh, to dwell among the humanity that He created in order to not only *tell us*, but to *show us* how to have eternal life, which is found in Him.

What was the truth or lesson that was impressed on your heart the most from Sunday's sermon?

OPEN YOUR BIBLE AND READ: John 7:32-52 (esv)

³²The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priest and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him. ³³Jesus then said, "I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. ³⁴You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come." ³⁵The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intends go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? ³⁶What does he mean by saying, 'You will seek me and you will not find me' and 'Where I am you cannot come'?" ³⁷On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. ³⁶Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" ... continue reading to verse 52



A. Stream #1: SALVATION - Regeneration

1. What misconceptions do people today have about Jesus that lead them away from accepting Him as the Son of God?
2. The Jews chose not to accept the truth about Jesus. They had too many historic traditions and preconceived ideas that got in the way of who the Messiah would be. Then as now each person is faced with answering the question of who Jesus is. Today Jesus is viewed by some as a great prophet, teacher or an upstanding moral person. What can we do to help people have a proper understanding of who Jesus is and how they can respond to Him?
3. Without Christ we're not just thirsty, we are DEAD! And without the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit (Christ in us) we cannot be made ALIVE! Read v38-39 and discuss what Jesus said. What does your response to Jesus' invitation look like for this day, this week and the months ahead? Share with the group.

B. Stream #2: SANCTIFICATION - Renewal

1. Have you experience "dryness" as a follower of Jesus? - Share with the group what those seasons look like for you and how Jesus has led you from being DRY to ALIVE.
2. An "unrepentant sin" is defined as one you know in your heart is wrong and yet are unwilling to turn from or give up. Discuss the following statement "According to God, there is no forgiveness available for unrepentant sin." Do you agree or disagree? Does this offend you? What are the implications if this is true? Read Matthew 25:31-46 to aid in your discussion.
3. What are the evidences found in Galatians 5:22-26 that indicate the Spirit's presence in your life?
4. Read together Psalm 51 & 32 - What did David experience as a remedy for his "dryness"? What were the results of his confession and repentance? What can we learn from David that would be beneficial for our season of dryness?

C. Stream #3: The SUPERNATURAL - Revival

1. What does John tell us in this passage that helps us understand what Jesus means when he says "Out of the heart will flow rivers of living waters"? Is the Holy Spirit promised to be a part of the life of every follower of Jesus? Read Acts 2:36-39 together.



2. How does the Holy Spirit work in the life of a follower of Jesus? Read Galatians 5:22-23; Romans 8:14; 8:26-27; Luke 24:44-49; 2 Timothy 1:3-14; John 14:12-18 to aid in your discussion. How does understanding the work of the Holy Spirit through *Regeneration, Renewal & Revival*, effect your daily walk as a follower of Jesus?
3. Share how you have experienced the Holy Spirit's work in your life. How has the Holy Spirit helped you live as a follower of Jesus?

CONCLUSION

We live in a world that is thirsty for the things that Jesus offers. The things like grace, peace, purpose, and meaning are sought after at all costs by people all around us. Jesus is inviting all people to come and drink regardless of who they are or what they have done in the past. Make a commitment to extend Jesus' offer - to come and drink - to thirsty people in your world. The invitation that Jesus extends divided people, it always has, it always will. On which side of the divide are you? What is your decision? You can decide now before he decides later.

SHARE AND PRAY

- Pray over those people who reject Jesus based on false information.
- Pray that God would give you the courage to do your best to present yourself to Jesus as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth (2 Tim 2:15).
- Like Nicodemus, pray that you would desire to move from standing on the sidelines, to courageously living out your faith.
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, with the understanding that Jesus' greatest desire is to see all saved and put their trust in Him. Pray for those in your life that are in need of a relationship with Jesus.

