

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Wk. 2 PreGame - Hydration is key.

Big Idea-

- Hook/Grab: We're going to watch a clip from the TV Show *Chosen* about a story in scripture, John 4. There is a good chance you've heard the story before, It is the woman at the well. But I thought maybe seeing it might help you understand some of what Jesus was doing, in a way you hadn't before. One warning/heads up, anytime we take a scene or story from scripture we have to remember (Just like anytime you make a book a movie) that creatively a producer might take things a smidge of a different direction or imagine things differently than you did. After studying the story a little bit, I don't find a whole lot out of whack or unreasonable in the way they filmed it and present it, BUT I want to make sure you know, scripture, what we have in our bibles, always gets the upper and final say. Here you go, give it a watch...
- Book/Grasp -
 - Let me take just a few moments here to cue you in on some things that you maybe didn't know were going on in this passage....
 - **vv. 4-9 - A list of problems....**
 - Through Samaria...
 - Samaritans...
 - Half Breeds, Blended Worship, A little in the dark/ only first 5 books of Moses.
 - In that day, Men & Women and what was proper.
 - AND at that time (middle of day), Outcasts
 - SHE THOUGHT SHE WAS THE PROBLEM.
 - **vv. 10-15 - Getting to the problem.**
 - The ANSWER: That water is going to satisfy you for today, but you will be back again tomorrow. I could fix that.
 - The CONFUSION: I'm game, I don't know how you're going to get it, but where do we find it?

- The ANSWER: Well I'm actually talking about that inner THIRST. I can help you quench it, starts in HERE and will affect you from the inside out. Touching even your future.
- The ASK: Prove it.
- vv. 16-25 - **The real problem.** I need you to set down your substitutes and excuses.
 - Set aside your Past. (5 husbands)
 - Set aside your Present. (Immoral Behavior)
 - Set aside your Excuses. (Can we know?, Your Motions, Your someday.)
- vv. 26 - **The real solution.** Give ME a chance to SATISFY your thirst.
- vv. 27-30
 - Something changed, clicked, made sense for this woman.
 - It became PERSONAL
 - It became ESSENTIAL that others know.
 -But she had to be willing to set down her water jar.
- Look/Grapple -
 - What is the ache you have inside? The ache that you are trying to quench?
 - Not good enough, not loved, not known, worry or anxiety, frustration and loneliness. Can't work hard enough, working too hard. What is it that you are telling yourself if only I could find _____ , I'd be okay.
- Took/Graft -
 - What if what ever it is, you were able to set it aside? To set it down & invite Jesus to replace it with something more satisfying. Something that doesn't run out?
 - What if it just started with being willing to hear, to listen on Wednesday nights? (Romans 10:17)
 - What if it started with being willing to be KNOWN in your small group? To trust the folks that gather up with ya?
 - What if it started with looking your struggle in the face and SAYING NO, I'm not going to play your game. And asking God to help you step beyond it. Asking Him to fill it? (James 1:14-15, 1 Cor. 10:13)

-Small Groups -

- **What in the video surprised you?**
- **What did you maybe see in the story that you didn't before?**
- **How did Chosen imagine the story in a way you hadn't?**
- **What surprises you about how Jesus treats the woman?**
- **What is an encouraging truth this story gives us? What is a challenging truth it confronts us with?**
- **Is the idea and metaphor of living water still confusing to you? How would you maybe explain it or describe it differently?**
- **What are some things you thirst for? What are some poor substitutes you've tried?**
- **How do you suppose Jesus actually quenches these thirsts in our lives?**
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- **(Deeper Dive/Hands on -|- Get a piece of paper) This woman's story (John 4) comes a chapter after another man encounter with Jesus, Nicodemus (John 3:1-21). How are these two accounts maybe similar? How are they maybe contrasting?**