

Seeing the Big Picture:

How would you summarize what we have talked about so far in this class?

Truth about God... He is a jealous God, who cares what we worship.

Truth about us... Fickle worshippers who exchange God for lesser goods.

Broken places we look for water...

Finding Significance in Relationships with People, Rather than who we are in relationship to God (Image Bearers, Loved, Children)

Finding Our Peace Outside of God

Filling Our Heart with Joys that aren't God

We must learn to drink from God's stream of living water.

Repent, Ask God for Help, Cultivate our New Self, Repeat

Look to the Spirit to Be Living Water in You:

John 4:7-14

[7] A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." [8] (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) [9] 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.) [10] Jesus answered her, "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." [11] The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? [12] Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." [13] Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, [14] 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." (ESV)

One of my favorite stories in the Bible. Love what Jesus does here. Who she is, what she says and how Jesus responds. It is all very powerful given the historical context.

But what is the offer? Have we experienced it?

John 7:37–39

[37] On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. [38] Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” [39] Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (ESV)

Now that the Spirit has been given, what should we expect our hearts to produce? What does that look like?

Romans 8:1–17

[1] There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. [2] For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. [3] For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, [4] in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. [5] For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. [6] For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. [7] For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. [8] Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. [9] You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. [10] But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. [11] If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. [12] So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. [13] For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. [14] For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. [15] For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” [16] The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, [17] and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. (ESV)

How does Romans 8 describe the effects of the Spirit of God in our lives?

Can you think of other examples generally or passages specifically that would inform our understanding of the rivers of living water that the Spirit produces in us?

Gal 6? Spiritual Gifts? Peace. Unity. Love.

Philippians 3:8–16

[8] Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ [9] and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—[10] that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, [11] that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

[12] Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. [13] Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, [14] I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. [15] Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. [16] Only let us hold true to what we have attained. (ESV)

Is Paul cultivating something or is something supernaturally growing in him?

What other scriptures come to mind when attempting to answer this question?

Draw Near to God:

James 4:4–10

[4] You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. [5] Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? [6] But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” [7] Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the

devil, and he will flee from you. [8] Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. [9] Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. [10] Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. (ESV)

What is friendship with the world that brings enmity with God?

Losing the Ephesians 2 perspective. I once was but I am not.
Receiving my values from the world rather than from God.

What is the prescription for avoiding such enmity?

Submit to God. Obey. Resist the devil. Say no to temptation and lies. Draw near. Read, pray, confess, worship, grow, spend time with. Cleanse hands. Purify hearts. Sanctification? Feel the gravity of that which is grave.

The motivation here seems pretty clear. I am to flee from living in worldly patterns and draw near to the heart of God. Thinking of this through the lens of modern idols and broken cisterns that we invest in I would recommend the following.

Examine your heart.

Examine your treasure.

Reflect on your choices.

Time, money, what you talk about.

Proverbs 4:23

[23] Keep your heart with all vigilance,
for from it flow the springs of life. (ESV)

Psalms 139:23-24

[23] Search me, O God, and know my heart!
Try me and know my thoughts!
[24] And see if there be any grievous way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting! (ESV)

1 Corinthians 6:12-15

[12] "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. [13] "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. [14] And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. [15] Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never!

What God has been doing in us as we have been interacting with his word and listening to one another in this class?

How does this lead you to pray for yourself and other believers?
Do that now!!!