08-03-14

Come to the Living Water! Water is so very important in our world! When water is present, everything grows and flourishes. But when plants and land are deprived of enough water, things begin to die. The same thing is true of the human body.

Think about these facts associated with our body and water: The human body is about $\frac{2}{3}$ water. By the time you're 70-years-old, you'll have needed $1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons of water. Studies show that increasing water consumption can decrease fat deposits. If you lose 2% of your body's needed water supply, your energy decreases by 20%. A 10% decrease, you'll be unable to walk, and a 20% decrease – you're dead! This clear liquid is very important to everyday life!

Turn to Isaiah 55. In verse one; Jesus uses the word "Come" as a command 4 times. He wants you to come to Him! Verse 1, "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." Jesus asks you first to come and satisfy your thirst.

A number of commentaries say that the water that's spoken of here is actually <u>"divine grace."</u> Think about it for a moment. When you're thirsty, you feel as though something is missing. A Hebrew scholar puts it this way, *"The invitation to come is for all who are dissatisfied and deeply feel that they're missing a vital ingredient in their life."*

Turn to John 4. When Jesus met the woman at the well who was drawing water for life, and Jesus asked her for a drink, look at how He describes the water He can provide. Verses 13-14, "Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 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."

<u>Come</u> and <u>satisfy</u> your <u>hunger</u>. Everyone knows when they're hungry and in need of nourishing food! When you're hungry, even the smell of cooking food will make your mouth water! But there are some hungers that can't be satisfied with physical food. Spiritual hunger can only be satisfied with the Bread of life.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:6, *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."* When you're seeking this true satisfaction, it can't be fulfilled with things of the world. You can't find it with money, possessions, prestige or pleasures. All human efforts will fail! Only Jesus can satisfy your inner hunger!

Jesus asks us to come to the feast He's provided. Isaiah 55:1 tells us Jesus is saying to us even with no money, buy, eat, buy wine and milk. The feast He provides here is free! Jesus, in His death and resurrection has already paid the entire bill! All who hunger and thirst can come to Him and be satisfied!

<u>Come</u> and <u>satisfy</u> your <u>soul</u>. People constantly search for satisfaction of their soul. Look at verses 2-3 of Isaiah 55, *"Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen*

diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant."

Life and <u>abundance</u> is only found in <u>Jesus</u>! We can't find it or try to get it anyway else. It's only provided through the love and grace of our loving God! As we come to Him and receive this gift, we will be satisfied. <u>True satisfaction is</u> <u>only found in Jesus</u>! The only satisfaction your soul will ever find is in coming to Christ by faith. Other routes to satisfaction are counterfeit.

<u>God freely invites</u>! He brings us to the feast in the waters of Baptism. He renews us as we confess to Him and receive His forgiveness. He welcomes us as we come to the Table to receive the body and blood of His Son given freely for us. He's invited us all to a feast. There's living water to quench our thirst, bread of life to satisfy our hunger, and Spiritual food to satisfy your soul.

<u>God richly blesses!</u> Every day the Lord invites us to celebrate His love, mercy and grace. Everyday we're richly blessed – even more than we can ask or imagine. Every day, our loving Lord says come – hear, read, and study My Word that you can see My hand blessing you and filling all your needs.

Our gracious God extends His free invitation to us this morning. He wants us to partake of and enjoy His free gift of eternal life. From 1 Peter 2, "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good".

May you always desire the Living Water that only Jesus can provide!