

Nobody can live person to person with our heavenly Father for you.

I can tell you about Jesus. I can talk with Jesus about you. I can't live person to person with Jesus for you.

The people heard what the woman said. They believed it. Then they sought to live person to person with the person they had come to know.

This week I invite you to drink from that fresh, bubbling, spring of water; the Spirit, as you spend time talking and listening to Dad, your heavenly Father, in Jesus. Share your loves, the passions he's placed on your heart. Ask Jesus

what's on his heart; what he wants to heal in your life, take that first thought, idea, impression, sense, emotion, picture, name you get and talk with Jesus about it. Then do it.

Jesus is inviting you to get personal with him. Nobody else can do it for you, so why not make time to talk, to share person to person, and be living life in all his fullness.

Why not get together in your 4x4 group and invite Jesus to lead the discussion. Invite Jesus to speak into your lives; grabbing those first thoughts,

ideas, impressions, senses, emotions, pictures, names you get from him; and seek to live them out.

Jesus is inviting you into a rich and full life of worship, where he's not a theory but an ever present reality; person to person – that's Spirit, reveal his heart and soul to you – that's truth. What a way to live!

I invite you, encourage you to do it!

15 March 2020  
**GROWING IN MY RELATIONSHIP  
WITH JESUS—3**

John 4:5-42



The last two weeks I've encouraged you to spend time talking and listening to Dad, your heavenly Father. To share with him the things you love. Sharing with Dad the passions he's placed on your heart.

Then asking Jesus what's on his heart, what he's passionate about and then listen. Grabbing that first thought, idea, impression, sense, emotion, picture, name you get and talk with Jesus about it. Then do it.

My desire is that we all grow in our relationship with Jesus; but for that to happen we need to live it out.

Jesus is inviting us all to live life with him through this story of his encounter with the woman at the well. Jesus is inviting us to

draw his life-giving water.

Did you notice there are two sorts of water in this story?

The woman has been drawing water; expressed by her failed relationships, which doesn't last. She gets thirsty again, and again, and again. No matter how much water you drink, physically, you'll get thirsty again. No matter how much fun your having today, it will leave you craving more tomorrow. As good as it is, it just doesn't have the capacity to give lasting satisfaction.

Jesus offers a different sort of water. Jesus described it this way; "Those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again... It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them

eternal life." (John 4:13,14)

Who's twigged that what I've been asking you to do over the last two weeks is how we drink the life giving water Jesus offers. The life giving water is a symbol for the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is who Jesus sent to be with us; God in person. The Holy Spirit is the fresh, bubbling spring within us, giving us eternal life. For here we are sharing life with God, person to person.

That is eternal life; sharing life with God, person to person, in a relationship of love and affections, in a conversational atmosphere, where we quite naturally live out his supernatural love.

Eternal life isn't simply breathing and existing none stop; that could be a living hell that

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**Christ Church Lutheran**

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am  
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

you can't escape from. What a horrible thought. Definitely not Jesus passion for you.

Jesus encounters this woman, person to person, and through this encounter she drinks in Jesus. That's the life he's come to give; a living, vibrant, personal, intimate, relationship.

Do you notice Jesus gets very personal, touching her pain. This woman, having had five husbands, speaks of pain, lots of pain.

I've noticed people don't divorce because they're having too much fun. Divorce is another word for pain, gut-wrenching pain, hopeless pain. This woman's life speaks of hurt, pain, thirst. A thirst she has been unable to satisfy.

Jesus doesn't avoid the issue, but rather comes in through this door, and he offers her life. Jesus doesn't pretend everything is alright; he touches her

pain, and brings about healing.

That's what Jesus specialises in; touching our pain and giving healing. That's what he was doing on the cross and he won forgiveness for us. Jesus wasn't pretending everything was alright; he touches our pain, and brings forgiveness,

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Jesus specialises in; touching our pain and giving healing.

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brings healing, hope, life.

Why not ask Jesus to reveal what pain he seeks to heal in you? Ask, listen, grab that first thought, and then invite Jesus in. As you invite Jesus in you're letting him touch your life with his healing presence. Jesus longs to heal. Jesus passionate desire is that we have life.

When I hear this story, I'm tempted to think Jesus off on a tangent as she talks about

what mountain to worship on. At first glance there seems to be a disconnect; almost as though the woman is trying to avoid Jesus touching her pain. She seems to go off on a theoretical plain.

When things get too personal, too painful, and I don't want to deal with it, that's what

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I'm often tempted to do. I go off on a theoretical plain, but Jesus has come to get personal. Love knows no other way.

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But worship isn't a theoretical thing; it strikes at the heart of life.

This woman had been looking for life, for her identity, for purpose in her relationships. That is an act of worship.

We miss the point if we think what happens on Sunday is all worship is about. Our life is an act of worship; it is in the choices we make, the way we live, how we see ourselves, what

gives our daily life purpose that reveal what we trust in. What you daily trust in is your 'God' the one, the thing, the hope, you look to for life.

Did this women's relationships give her life? Did the water she was drawing daily give her purpose, worth, identity, meaning, life lived to the full?

Life is a worship question.

What, who, gives your life meaning, purpose? What, who shapes your identity? Where do you look for love, security, hope? Life is a worship question.

Life is discovered in knowing God for who he reveals himself to be; Father, Son, Spirit, and then sharing life intimately with him. Talking with him as you reveal what is on your heart, talking about your loves, your hurts, inviting him in. Then listening to him, so he might lead your living; grabbing those thoughts, hopes, dreams, impression,

desires and doing it with him.

What did I ask, invite you to do this week?

Jesus said; "The time is coming – indeed it's here now – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. For God

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Life is a Worship Question!

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is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:23,24)

In Jesus we get to share life person to person with God; heart to heart. That's spirit. We're not playing games. We're not making it up. We're responding to what God, in Jesus, through the Spirit has revealed about himself. We are invited into an intimate, personal relationship of love and affection. We're not playing games, Jesus is for real.

And so we get to reveal ourselves to him. Inviting him in; not playing games but being vulnerable, just as in Jesus, God has, is vulnerable. That's truth. We're not pretending. We're not putting on a good show. We're being open and honest with each other; that speaks of forgiveness,

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of healing, of walking honestly and openly with God, for in Jesus, we know we can trust him. His touch heals; that is his heart's desire.

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Did you notice this encounter finishes with the people from the village saying; "Now we believe, not just because of what you told us, but because we have heart him ourselves. Now we know that he is indeed the Saviour of the world." (John 4:42)

Another way I avoid getting personal, is trying to live through other people. Guess what, nobody can have faith for you?