

THIRSTING FOR THE LIVING WATER

John 4:5-42 tells the story of Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well. This encounter reveals Jesus as the source of living water, quenching our deepest thirst.

The Samaritan woman was thirsty, physically and spiritually. Jesus offers her living water, saying, "Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst" (John 4:14). Like her, we thirst for meaning, love, and salvation. "The desire for God is written in the human heart" (CCC 2565).

St. Augustine says, "You made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." (Confessions). Our hearts are restless because we were made for God. Jesus offers us the living water of faith, hope, and love.

Pope Francis reminds us, "The Christian is a joyous person... who knows that he or she is not alone, but has a friend in Jesus." (Gaudete et Exsultate). When we drink from Jesus' well, we become joyful missionaries, sharing the good news.

St. Irenaeus writes, "The glory of God is man fully alive." When we encounter Jesus, He gives us clear purpose and meaning of life. When we choose to adopt his way of life, everything about us changes for good. That is what we celebrate in the Samaritan woman, whose life was transformed, sharing her experience with others (John 4:39).

St. Thomas Aquinas notes, "The desire for happiness is natural to man." We seek happiness, but true fulfillment comes from Jesus, the living water.

In Romans 5:5-8, Paul writes, "God's love has been poured into our hearts." Jesus' sacrifice shows God's immense love. When we drink from the living water, we are filled with God's love, enabling us to love others.

Dear friends it is said that "a joy well possessed is the joy that is shared" Hence remember that when this Samaritan woman eventually tasted the sweetness of salvation, she was filled with joy. Did she keep it to herself alone? No. She shared it with others; and invited them to come and experience it for themselves. She immediately became evangelists. Is this not amazing?

Do we still feel comfortable talking to people about our faith? What is my spiritual thirst? Am I drinking from Jesus' well? Do we still invite family and friends to church as much as we invite them to see a movie or have supper with us?

May God help us to be joyful missionaries, sharing the living water with others.

Prayer: Lord, we are thirsty. Give us living water, that we will be filled with your love and share it with others. Amen. PEACE!