

When the Well is Empty

Today when I wanted to begin my weekly devotional, I found that this “well was empty.” I had no ideas. Nothing extraordinary had happened this week other than our “snowstorm of the century.” Then I thought of my favorite well when I was young. Growing up I loved well water. I loved the taste of it and the coolness. There was a well in what is now Troy that I loved and every time we would go by it, I would beg to stop and get a drink. I think my dad must have known this would happen because he always stopped. There was also one in Birmingham, and I remember it was in a park. We did not pass this one very often but would stop so I could get a drink. We had a well at home in my teens and somehow the water never tasted as refreshing, too easily attained perhaps. When we moved to Washington, we had a well and I enjoyed the water but found the laundry was difficult with the stains from the water, especially my uniforms. I used a laundromat and could do the laundry in much less time and even sometimes leave it for the personnel at the laundry to do and all I had to do was pick it up later. I really liked that! Eventually we had to have another well put in and the water and water pressure was much better. But I always remembered that well where I wanted to stop for a drink.

Jesus was thirsty. He stopped at the well and asked a woman who was there to get him a drink.

John 4:7-10 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink? The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” “Sir.” The woman said, “You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and flocks and herds?” Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

The woman left Jesus and went into her town. She told everyone about the stranger she had met and the living water he offered, and many were converted on her testimony.

God has given us Christ and when we thirst and hunger for God he is as close as a prayer. We go to him with our gratitude and our praise. Gratitude for a life given and praise for his place in that life. All those times we think we are alone; God is saying turn to me, and I will fill you with living water. I will give you balm for your pain and peace for your soul.

Isaiah 55:12 You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; and the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you, and the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Lord, we praise you and thank you for all those times when you were by our side. Be with those who are ill and those who grieve. May we offer comfort and solace to them. Bless and keep our Pastor and bless his ministry. Be with our staff and leaders, guide them and may they feel your help and comfort in all they do. In Jesus name, Amen

Grace Epperson