

**Notes from Sunday Message March 15, 2020**  
**Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-42**  
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The Lord delivered the people out of slavery and toil. Out of the beautiful Nile River Valley and into the wilderness of Sin. Some Deliverance, they must have thought! The journey to God’s promised Land would be long and difficult. One of the first hardships on the journey was no water. A big problem for over a million people. The Lord provided. But not without the people quarreling and blaming and being one big test. They even wondered if God was with them at all.

The Lord showed them by miraculous provision that God was indeed really with them. Jesus journey was long and difficult too. In John chapter 4 we find Jesus tired and hungry from the journey. The disciples went on a food run. Jesus goes to Jacobs Well. The place famous for getting hooked up. Like Rebekah and Isaac. Jacob and Leah. People were sure to be there. Samaritans. Rejects. Loathed by religious ones of the day. Sure enough, when Jesus sits down by the well, and a Samaritan woman comes to get water. Jesus starts speaking to her. What do you think people thought Jesus was trying to do?! Jews did not speak to Samaritans. Jewish men did not speak to women in public. Jesus asks her for a drink. To even use a cup or pitcher touched by a Samaritan was ceremonially unclean for a Jew. Why did Jesus do all these religiously forbidden things?

Look at what he said. He spoke of how unsatisfied one soon is after partaking of earthly things like this water, but how he knew of a kind of living water that truly satisfies for good. Nothing like the disappointment of her five failed marriages and the non-committal bum she now lives with and depends on. She decides she wants it and asks if he’ll give her a drink of this living water.

Jesus acknowledges the pain of her life experiences, showing he knows her pain even without her telling it. This outcast becomes an evangelist. She goes and tells the whole town. They come out to meet this man, and Jesus stays two more days. Many discover the joy, the hope, the new life of knowing the Savior.

Jesus tells his disciples that this, seeing discarded people find hope, life in Him, is what he lives for. And the seeds of this good news have been planted. And the fields are ripe to harvest. It’s our privilege to do like Jesus.

That’s the amazing joy in the journey.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Harley