

⑱ Gospel of John

INTRODUCTION | Jesus and The Law

Today's Bible passage talks about living water. Just as the human body needs water to survive, we need spiritual life to satisfy our thirsty souls. Jesus is the only one who can satisfy this thirst. Let's think about the following themes. Firstly, why do we need this water of life that Jesus gives? Secondly, what is this water of life? Thirdly, how do we drink this water? Let's learn more about this need for the water of life, its nature and how to drink it.

SCRIPTURE | John 7:37-44

37 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. 40 On hearing his words, some of the people said, "Surely this man is the Prophet." 41 Others said, "He is the Messiah." Still others asked, "How can the Messiah come from Galilee? 42 Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David's descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?" 43 Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. 44 Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him.
Questions.

QUESTIONS |

- 1: (verse 37) It was the 7th day of the festival of Tabernacles when Jesus stood and made this important statement. What is this statement about? To what kind of spiritual situation does the expression "thirsty" refer to?
- 2: The festival of Tabernacles celebrates how God protected and provided for the people of Israel in the desert after they left Egypt. In your own life, can you think of something similar?
(ref: Exodus 17:1-6, Psalm Psalm 78:14-16)
- 3: (verse 38) According to the book of Zechariah, the festival of Tabernacles was not only an occasion to remember God's grace, but also remember the hope for a Messiah. Thanks to the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and his resurrection, what kind of blessings does the living water we can drink bring us? (ref: Zechariah 14:8-9)
- 4: In Revelation 22 (Ezekiel 47), this living water Jesus tells us about is linked with the expectation of the kingdom of God and its wonders. Concretely, what are you expecting for this future?
(ref: Revelation 22:1-4)
- 5: (verse 39) How does the author, John, explain this living water Jesus talks about? The holy spirit, who is the living water, works with God's words and blessings. How does it fulfill your life and prepare us for the coming kingdom of God? (ref: Proverb 13:14, 18:4)
6. Concretely, what can we do to drink this living water offered by Jesus?

Reading (Reference) |

Exodus 17:1-6

1 The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2 So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?" 3 But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?" 4 Then Moses cried out to the Lord, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me." 5 The Lord answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6 I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel.

Psalm 78:14-16

14 He guided them with the cloud by day and with light from the fire all night. 15 He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them water as abundant as the seas; 16 he brought streams out of a rocky crag and made water flow down like rivers.

Zechariah 14:8-9

8 On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half of it east to the Dead Sea and half of it west to the Mediterranean Sea, in summer and in winter. 9 The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and his name the only name.

Revelation 22:1-4

1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

Proverb 13:14, 18:4

13:14 The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death. 18:4 The words of the mouth are deep waters, but the fountain of wisdom is a rushing stream.

Prayers |

- Jesus is the Messiah announced by the prophets. Thanks to him, we can have your spiritual thirst satisfied and be part of the kingdom of God. Let's praise him as he gave his life in sacrifice for us.
- What are we thirsty for, what is our soul longing for? If we are looking to Christ to satisfy our longings, we can only be disappointed. Let's us reflect on our situation and repent.

UPCOMING EVENTS | This Week & Next Week

Leaders Training 20th **Lunchtime meeting** 21st Akasaka 22nd Kasumigaseki 23rd Otemachi
Worship and setup teams meeting (25) **Grace city gospel** (27) **Obento project** (5/2)
Leaders training supplementary lecture (27), **GC SPRING Retreat** (3rd May -5th May)