

Devotional Guide: Questions Jesus Asked: “Can I Have a Drink?”

Opening Prayer

Loving Jesus,
as we come to Your Word today, quiet our hearts and open our minds.
Help us to hear this familiar story as if for the first time.
Let Your question reach beyond our ears and into the deepest places of
our hearts. Reveal the places where we are thirsty.
Show us again the living water You freely offer.
And by Your Spirit, shape us to become people who share that living
water with others.

Amen.

Read the Scriptures Together

Before continuing, take time to read the passages slowly.

Primary Reading

- Gospel of John 4:1–42 — Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well.

Additional Reflection

- Ecclesiastes 2:10–11 — Solomon’s search for satisfaction.

If you are in a group, consider reading the passage aloud together.
Listen for words or moments that stand out to you.

Summary of the Scripture

In this passage from John’s Gospel, Jesus deliberately travels through Samaria — a route most Jews avoided because of deep historical hostility between Jews and Samaritans. At a well outside the town of Sychar, Jesus encounters a Samaritan woman who has come alone to draw water at midday. This detail hints at her social isolation.

Jesus begins the conversation with a simple but surprising request:

“Will you give me a drink?”

This question breaks multiple cultural boundaries.

A Jewish rabbi speaks publicly to a Samaritan woman and asks her for help. Through their conversation, Jesus reveals that He can give **“living water”** — a spiritual life and satisfaction that will never run dry. As He gently exposes the deeper struggles in her life, the woman realises she is truly known by Him. Instead of condemnation, she experiences grace. Instead of rejection, she finds hope. The woman leaves her water jar behind, returns to her town, and invites others to meet Jesus: **“Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did.”**

Her encounter with Jesus transforms her from an isolated outsider into a witness.

Summary of the Sermon

This story reminds us that Jesus intentionally seeks people out. John tells us that Jesus **“had to go through Samaria.”** This was not simply a geographical decision but a divine appointment. Jesus meets the woman where she is — tired, thirsty, and carrying a complicated story. He begins not with judgement but with a question.

That simple question opens the door to transformation.

The sermon reminds us that **discipleship often begins with being truly seen**. When someone listens to us, values us, and walks alongside us, it can change our lives. The same is true in our relationship with Jesus. He knows our deepest thirst — our longing for meaning, acceptance, peace, and love. Yet so often we try to satisfy those desires in ways that never truly fill us. Like the woman at the well, we are invited to receive the **living water of Christ**. And once we have encountered Him, we are called to do what she did: to invite others to come and see.

Reflection Questions

Use these questions for personal reflection or group discussion.

Seeing and Being Seen

1. When have you experienced someone truly listening to you or valuing your story?
2. Why do you think Jesus begins this conversation with a question instead of a statement?

Recognising Our Thirst

3. Jesus speaks about “living water.” What kinds of things do people today look to for satisfaction or fulfilment?
4. Where do you notice thirst in your own life right now — for peace, purpose, belonging, or hope?

Grace Instead of Condemnation

5. What strikes you most about how Jesus treats the woman?
6. How might our churches and communities better reflect this same grace?

Becoming Witnesses

7. The woman immediately tells others about Jesus. What helped her move from shame to courage?
 8. Who in your life might need an invitation to “come and see” Jesus?
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Lenten Action Point

Lent is a season of honesty, reflection, and returning to God.

This week, take time to consider **what wells you have been drawing from**.

Ask yourself:

- Are these things truly satisfying my soul?
- Or do they leave me thirsty again?

A simple practice for the week:

1. Set aside **five minutes each day** to sit quietly with Jesus.
2. Pray honestly about your deepest needs or longings.
3. Ask Jesus to fill those places with His living water.

Then take one outward step:

Look for an opportunity to **truly listen to someone** — just as Jesus did. Ask a thoughtful question. Offer your attention. Be present. Remember the ACORN prayer.

Sometimes discipleship begins with something as simple as a conversation.

Closing Prayer

Living Lord Jesus,
You know the deepest thirst of every human heart.
You know the places where we feel empty, tired, or unseen.

Thank You for meeting us at the well of our lives.
Thank You that You speak to us with grace rather than condemnation.
Thank You for the living water You offer — the life of Your Spirit within us. Teach us to drink deeply from You.
Free us from the things that cannot truly satisfy.
And make us people whose lives overflow with Your love.

Help us to notice those around us who feel unseen or alone.
Give us courage to listen, to care, and to invite others to come and see You.

May Your living water flow through us into the world.

Amen.

