



### John 4:1-15 New Revised Standard Version

<sup>1</sup> Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, "Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John" <sup>2</sup> (although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized), <sup>3</sup> he left Judea and started back to Galilee. <sup>4</sup> But he had to go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup> So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."



**"We may not know what we need, and we may try to satisfy our needs with possessions, foods, or relationships that do not satisfy and that may bring dangerous side effects."**

**-Bradley Holt**

When was the last time you found yourself parched? Perhaps it was after a period of working in the yard or maybe at the conclusion of an exercise routine. What did you do? Grab a handful of sand? Guzzle a bottle of hot sauce? Certainly not! It is highly likely you **did** go to your refrigerator or tap for something much cooler and more refreshing. More likely than not, a nice glass of H<sub>2</sub>O. As good and satisfying as it was for the moment, Scripture reminds us of another thirst with which we all struggle day after day. It is deeper and, although we try, more difficult to satisfy (at least on our own). The encounter between Jesus and an unnamed Samaritan woman at a well serves as the longest exchange between Jesus and an individual within Scripture. It functions for us as a reminder that not all thirst can be quenched by ordinary water; we each have need of living water.

- 1. Jesus offers a better quality of what we have need of.**
- 2. "Living water" has immediate and ongoing effects.**
- 3. Ordinary "water" always leaves us coming back for more.**

**Prayer Pebble:** Lord, forgive me for the times when I move from one thing to another attempting to satisfy my inner thirst. Anything other than you will always leave me wanting for more. I open my life to that which you alone can supply. Fill me to the top. Amen.