

SACRED THIRST

JOHN 7:37-39 – ERIC SIMPSON - NOVEMBER 25, 2018

“One of the privileges a pastor enjoys is to be invited into some of the deepest chambers of people’s lives. I am amazed at how often I find a lonely sadness hiding beneath layers and layers of success and respectability. The sadness is not depression, for these people really are functioning just fine. It’s more of a quiet sorrow that has attached itself to the walls of the inner soul, a subdued sorrow that simply will not go away.” - M. Craig Barnes

John 7:37-39

³⁷ *On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” ³⁹ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive.*

No water, no life.

No Jesus, no living water.

No living water, no Spirit.

Two characteristics of a “living-water-life” ...

➤ Paying attention to the ache of incompleteness

Isaiah 55:1-2

¹ *“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. ² Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.*

“When was the last time you felt it—your own longing, that is? Your longing for love, your longing for God, your longing to live your life as it is meant to be lived in God? When was the last time you felt a longing for healing and fundamental change groaning within you? Don’t rush past this question; it may be the most important question you ever ask.”

— Ruth Haley Barton

➤ Consumed with Christ

A person full of the Spirit can’t get enough of Jesus—they want to spend time with him, become more like him, hang around with others that are passionate about him, dedicate their lives to serving him.