



SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS for Sunday, September 24, 2023

Series: Refresh: Sharing Christ in Every Day Conversations

Sermon Title: #parched

Pastor: Pastor Brian Eckelmann

Primary Text: John 4:6-8

Theme/concept

Surprisingly, spiritual conversations best begin with our need, not other people's need. For instance, Jesus was vulnerable, tired from his journey and thirsty for water. Are you and I willing to be vulnerable? Spiritual conversations only happen when we cross barriers. As a Jewish man, Jesus was not supposed to talk to women. Questions are the lifeblood of conversation, and especially spiritual conversations. Questions also place the asker beneath the asked; Good questions invite the hearer to share their experiences without judgment or assumption.

Icebreaker (for groups)

Share a time when someone asked you a question that led to a meaningful conversation. What were the circumstances?

Reflections on the sermon:

Which points from the sermon, or the passage, resonated with you? What spiritual conversations did you have this past week?

Scripture Passage: John 4:6-8 (NIV)

⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" ⁸(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

Reviewing the Scripture:

1. In this brief passage we find a number of details. What do we learn about Jesus' physical condition?
2. What can be assumed about a community well outside the village, located on the parcel of land that Jacob gave to his son, Joseph?
3. The Gospel writer makes a point to document the time of day in this chapter. Why would that be significant?
4. How does the passage describe the vulnerability of Jesus in this setting? Does He seem to be out of His "comfort zone" in verse 6?
5. In verse 7 what interaction do we see? Describe Jesus' request. Is it surprising that the woman came alone to the village well?
6. Where were the disciples at the time, and did this contribute to any vulnerability of Jesus in this setting at a community well?

Going Deeper:

1. In verse 7 how does Jesus provide grace to the Samaritan woman? Does His simple request surprise you for that time and place?
2. With what we know about Jesus as Savior and Lord, does His simple question seem to be a lead-in to a spiritual conversation at this point, or just a physical need for a drink of water?

3. The Gospel writer, John, was very concise in these verses. Did you gain any further insight into Jesus' character as a man, as He was left alone in this passage?

Personal Reflection Questions:

1. What physical changes in your environment in life contribute to your vulnerability? Ask the Lord to help and guide you during these times in your life.
2. How can you anticipate or prepare for times of being susceptible to challenges, or during "alone-time", and with whom can you share your concerns?

Questions that could easily arise during your conversations this week.....

- When in your life did "God" become an important word to you?
- Has there ever been a time when you sensed God at work in your life?
- Would you be willing to tell me what you believe about God and eternity?
- How can I pray for you today?

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father,

We praise you for your Sovereignty in all things, including our physical vulnerabilities. We are fearfully and wonderfully made, and we thank you for being with us in our humanness on a daily basis. We acknowledge our needs. Provide guidance for us, Lord, as we communicate with others, and as we lovingly ask questions that will lead to meaningful conversations.

In Jesus' name, -Amen-