

"I Was Thirsty..."

The Woman at the Well in Samaria

John 4:5-15

Ages 3-6

Level A

Series Theme: You shall love the Lord your God, and your neighbor as yourself.

Lesson Focus: Our minds need "living water"—truth from the Word—just as our bodies need physical water.

Reading Summary: Jesus stopped at Jacob's well in Sychar on a journey through Samaria. Seeing a Samaritan woman approach, Jesus asked for a drink of water. She was surprised because Jews did not usually talk to Samaritans. Jesus replied, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." She asked how He could draw water from the deep well. He answered that whoever drank water from that well would thirst again, "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst," because the water would become "a fountain springing up into everlasting life."

Lesson 2			Materials Supplied	Materials Needed
1.	Welcome Warm-up Activity (2-3 minutes)	Activity	Thirsty Sponge directions p. 2	one or two small pieces of dry sponge, shallow container with small amount of water in it
2.	Focus on the Word Use all activities (5-7 minutes)	Read the Word and Talk About It	see <i>Reading Summary</i> above discussion guide p. 2	Bible or copy of John 4:5-15
3.	Learn by Doing Choose 1-2 activities (15-20 minutes)	Project make a miniature "Word" with a cover that shows a fountain	Fountain of Everlasting Life directions p. 3 Fountain of Everlasting Life p. 5	blank paper, light-colored crayons, blue water-based paint wash, brushes, stapler <i>optional:</i> hairdryer to speed up paint drying, red ribbon to use as Word markers
		Activity build Jacob's well from paper grocery bags; get water from the well as a quotation is read from the Word	Water from the Well directions pp. 3-4 <i>Water from the Well</i> <i>Quotations</i> p. 6	brown paper grocery bags, newspaper or more bags for stuffing, stapler, big bowl of water, ladle (or cup for dipping water), a cup for each child
		Coloring Picture	Jesus at the Well p. 7	crayons, markers or colored pencils
4.	Wrap It Up (2-3 minutes)	Memory Verse introduce the memory verse for the week	Memory Verse Parent Notes p. 8	

1. Welcome Warm-up Activity

Thirsty Sponge

Supplies needed: one to two small dry pieces of sponge, container with just a little water in it

Pass around a dry sponge. Encourage the children to feel it and see how many words they can use to describe it, e.g. hard, scratchy, dry, rough, solid, etc. Put the sponges in the container with the water and watch them soak it up. (*Hint*: if you use just a little water the children can observe the water level going down as the sponges soak it up.) Once the sponge is wet, squeeze out excess water and pass it around again. Encourage the children to feel it and see how many words they can use to describe it, e.g. moist, wet, soft, squishy, bendable, etc.

- 1. How is the sponge different? What can you do with the wet sponge that you couldn't do before?
- 2. Our minds are like sponges. Sometimes we can be stubborn and hard, and then if our parents or teachers talk to us, we can become softer, and treat others more kindly, say sorry, or forgive.
- 3. The water that softens the sponge is like truth from the Lord's Word. When we soak up true ideas from the Word our hearts can become softer and more loving toward others.
- 4. Our story today is about two people who were thirsty—Jesus, and a woman from Samaria.

2. Focus on the Word

Read: John 4:5-15. Many teaching pictures are available online, e.g. www.bitly.com/SMJohn4.

This story happened in a place called Samaria. Let's all say "Samaria." The people living in Samaria were distant relatives of the people living in Judea, where the Lord was born. One of the differences between Judeans and Samaritans was that the Samaritans only had the first five books of the Word. (*Optional*: hold up a copy of the Word and show the children the first five books. Look at all the other parts of the Word they did not have.) They did not have many important ideas about the Lord.

Who did the Lord talk to? A woman who was coming to the well.

What did the Lord ask for? A drink of water from the well.

Why was the woman surprised? Because Samaritans and Jews did not usually talk to each other.

What kind of water did the Lord say He could give her? Living water. Living water means true ideas that show us the way to heaven. True ideas from the Lord's Word can help clean our thoughts just as water can clean our bodies and help them work properly. When we do not know true ideas from the Word our mind is like a dry sponge. Remember how much more useful the wet sponge was? Our minds are like wet sponges when we have the ideas we need to keep our thoughts clean.

Our bodies need water at every moment. We know when we do not have enough water because we become thirsty. If we take a drink of water we are not thirsty any more.

Our minds get "thirsty" too. They need "living water" from the Word. They need true ideas that teach us how to live to receive heavenly happiness. We must first learn what is true so we can do what is right. The woman in our story needed living water because she did not have an important part of the Word that could teach her how to live.

Did you notice that the Lord asked the woman to give *Him* a drink? The Lord asks us to love Him, and do what He teaches in the Word, because He wants to give us the happiness of heaven more than anything else! And the Lord wants us to share that happiness by sharing the ideas from His Word with others.

3. Learn by Doing

Choose one or two activities

Choice 🗧 Fountain of Everlasting Life

The Word is a source for true ideas that can satisfy our spiritual thirst during life on earth and to eternity in heaven. We can go to this "well" again and again. It is where we can meet the Lord, get to know Him and learn how to be useful. Children will make a miniature copy of the Word whose outer cover is a picture of a fountain.

- 1. Each of you will make a small copy of the Word with a cover that looks like a fountain. This is because truths in the Word are like water that sparkles in a fountain. The truths show us the way to heaven, where the Lord can bless us forever.
- 2. Give each child a blank piece of paper and some light colored crayons. Show them how to draw lines like a fountain, shooting up from the bottom of the page and then dropping down again.
- 3. Next we will paint our fountain page blue. Hand out paint brushes and blue water color wash to share. Encourage use of large strokes to cover the page. Set pages aside to dry in a sunny or warm spot. Optional: speed up drying with a hairdryer.
- 4. Give each child a Fountain of Everlasting Life page (p. 5) and a crayon. Show them how to fill in the lines to write "Lord's Word."
- 5. Fold the paper in half and then in half again to make a book. "Lord's Word" should be on the center pages of the book.
- 6. When the cover is dry, fold it in half, paint side out, then in half again.
- 7. Place the printed pages inside the book cover and use a stapler to fasten them together.
- 8. *Optional*: give each child a piece of ribbon to use as a marker.



Choice \geq Water from the Well

The Lord's Word is like a well containing the water of life—true ideas that satisfy our spiritual thirst. Children create a "well" using grocery bags and act out going to the well for a cup of water. They receive a "drink" of the water of everlasting life at the same time by hearing a true idea from the Lord's Word.

- 1. How do you get a drink of water? Most people get water from a tap or faucet today. But when the Lord was on earth there were no faucets. People would walk a long way to get water from a spring or river. They might also go to wells to get fresh water from deep in the ground. The woman in our story went to a well for water. Wells were protected by large rocks.
- 2. We are going to make a well. Instead of rocks we are going to use bags. We will start by putting crumpled paper (or crumpled bags, etc.) into



Materials Needed for Each Child

blank piece of paper, light colored crayons, blue watercolor wash, paintbrush, copy of Fountain of Everlasting Life, p. 5, stapler optional: 8" (20cm) red ribbon to use as Word marker, hairdryer to share

Prepare in Advance

Mix blue watercolor wash into shallow containers that will not spill easily. Print copies of Fountain of Everlasting Life, p. 5 for each child. Trim off edges with scissors or a paper cutter.

Materials Needed

Water from the Well Quotations p. 6, six to twelve brown paper grocery bags (or plastic bags), newspaper or more bags to use as filler, stapler, duct tape, large bowl, water, ladle, cup for each child

Smaller Option: For a smaller well, use paper lunch bags and build the well on a table. You could also use large cardboard or wooden building blocks.

Prepare in Advance See next page.

Water from the Well continued

the bags. When the bags are full, staple them shut.

- 3. With the children's help, create a circular well around a bowl of water using the bags. Secure the bags in place using duct tape. For a deeper well, add another layer of bags on top and secure with tape.
- 4. Give each child a cup.
- 5. Line the children up at the well. Tell them that people waited in lines and took turns getting water from wells for their families and their animals.
- 6. Scoop water from the well using a ladle or an extra cup and pour it into each child's cup. As you pour the water for each child, read a verse from the *Water from the Well Quotations* (p. 6).

Choice Col

S Coloring Picture: Jesus at the Well

Hand out copies of *Jesus at the Well* (p. 7) and invite the children to color it.

4. Wrap It Up

Memory Verse

We are building a Memory Verse of Matthew 25:35-36, phrase by phrase each lesson. Review phrase one and teach phrase two, below. The recitation has been set to music with actions for easy learning. Watch online at https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-for-i-was-hungry-song/. This sing-along video repeats the song and actions three times.

For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink. Matthew 25:35

Closing

The Lord wants to give us the happiness of heaven more than anything else! He gives us His Word so we will know *how* to be happy, and He wants us to share that happiness with others.

Give Parent Notes (p. 8) to children as they leave.



Prepare in Advance

Clear a space for the activity. Turn grocery bags inside out to hide writing. Depending on your group, you may want to fill the bags ahead of time.

New Church Concept Living Waters

"Living waters" are often mentioned in the Word, and by them are meant truths that come to us from the Lord and are received. These are living, because the Lord is Life itself.... The Lord also...opens the spiritual part of our mind, and imparts to us the affection for truth; and the spiritual affection of truth is the very life of heaven within us. Apocalypse Explained 483

Materials Needed

copies of *Jesus at the Well* p. 7; crayons, markers, or col-ored pencils

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against them."²⁵ So Moses went down to the people and spoke to them.

20 And God spoke all these words, saying:
 2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bond-

"You shall have no other gods before

Me. "You shall not make for yourself any carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or

www.newchurchvineyard.org

Fountain of Everlasting Life

The Ten Commandments

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A Samaritan Woman Meets Her Messiah

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32 "And what He has seen and heard, that He testifies; and no one receives His testimony

EXODUS 20 74 land of Egypt, on the same day, they came to the Wilderness of Sinai. ² For they had departed from Rephi-dim, had come to the Desert of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness. So Israel camped there before the mountain, ³ And Moses went up to God, and the Loron called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: ⁴ You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on cagles' ⁵ Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. ⁶ 'And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the chil-dren of Israel." ⁷ So Mosses came and called for the el-ders of the people, and laid before them

ders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the LORD com-

manded him.
Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD.
And the LORD said to Moses, "Be-hold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever." So Moses told the words of the people to the LORD.

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to the people and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their

tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes.
¹¹ "And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Loab will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.
¹² "You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying. "Take heed to yourselves that you do not go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death.
¹³ "Not a hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot with an arrow, whether man or beast, he shall not live." When the trampet sounds long, they shall come near the mountain."
¹⁴ Then Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sneifield the people, "Be ready 20 Septiagaint casts all the people.
¹⁵ And he said to the people.

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from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"

12 "Are You greater than our father Ja-cob, who gave us the well, and drank

redution to the test and sold to her, "It is a submittions. Samanitans, to locus and sold to her, "It is best and sold to her, "It is best and sold of God, and who ult who says to you. Victor Me a dimer, you would have gated thim, and the would have gated to him, "Sir, You are given you bring to deep. Where then do You get that living deep. Where then do You get that living water?

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EXODUS 21

men, men, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?"

The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men.

27 And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with het?"

Fatter in spin and thur, four the random is seeking such to worship Him must worship in spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." So The woman said to thim, 'H know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Messiah is coming" (who is called all things." Se Jesus said to her, ''I who speak to you an He."

Dere to draw." Is feasus said to her, "Go, call your hus-band, and corne here." "You have well said, 'I have no husband, "You have well said, 'I have no husband, "You have well said 'Ve husband, and the one whom you now husband, and

¹⁵ The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, not come here to draw."

¹⁴ "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in water that I shall give him will become in the advantage of the shall give him everlating lite."

13 Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst

The Law of the Altar 22 Then the LoRD said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: "You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. 23 "You shall not make *anything to be* with Me—gods of silver or gods of gold you shall not make for yourselves. 24 "An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I record My name I will come to you, and I will bess you. 25 "And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn istone; for if you use your tool on it, you have profaned it. 26 'Nor shall you go up by steps to My altar, that your nakedness may not be ex-posed on it.'

The Law Concerning Servants

The Law Concerning Servants **21** "Now these are the judgments "If you buy a Hebrew servant, he shall serve six years; and in the seventh he shall go out free and pay nothing. "If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he *comes* in married, then his wife shall go out with him. "If he comes in a given him a wife, his master has given him a wife, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself. "If the servant plainty says," I love master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free. "then his master shall bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the judget. He shall also bring him to the shall serve him forever. "And if a man sells his daughter to be a maidservant, she shall not go out as the "If she does not please her master,"

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that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, arm a jealous God, visit-the children to the fathers on fourth generations of those who fourth generations of those who

ses drew God was.

The Law of the Altar

Father in spirit and truth, for is seeking such to worship Him.

IIB

46 So Jesus came again to Cana of Gali-lee where He had made the water wine.

43 Now after the two days He departed from there and went to Gaillee. 44 For Jesus Himselt testified data a prophet has no honor in his own country. 45 So when He same to Gaillee, the Gail. 1ieans received Him, having seen all the things He did in Jetusalem at the least: for they also had gone to the teast.

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that is in the water under the earth;
you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, an a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,
but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.
"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD your God in vain, for the sabbath tay, to keep it holy.

it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all

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Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your want, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hal-lowed it.

12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your

the land which the LORD your God is giving you.
13 "You shall not murder.
14 "You shall not commit adultery.
15 "You shall not teal.
16 "You shall not ceal.
16 "You shall not cover your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maiservant, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

18 Now all the people witnessed the hunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw *it*, they trembled and stood afar off.
19 Then they said to Moses, "You speak

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The People Afraid of God's Presence

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A Nobleman's Son Healed

Welcome at Galilee

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Water from the Well Quotations

Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. Revelation 22:17	Drink from it, all of you. Matthew 26:27	Bring water to him who is thirsty. Isaiah 21:14
I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. Revelation 21:6	You gave them water for their thirst. Nehemiah 9:20	I will pour water on him who is thirsty. Isaiah 44:3
I was thirsty and you gave Me drink. Matthew 25:35	Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for right- eousness. Matthew 5:6	Whoever drinks of the wa- ter I shall give him will never thirst. John 4:14
Let him who thirsts come. Revelation 22:17	Truth itself is living water. Arcana Coelestia 2702.5	They shall neither hunger nor thirst. Isaiah 49:10
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. Isaiah 12:3	The Word is the springfor living water. <i>True Christianity</i> 777	Living fountains of water mean truths that are from the Lord. <i>Arcana Coelestia</i> 2702.6



Parent Notes

Make a copy for each child. Hand out as children leave.

PARENT NOTE

Dear Parents,

We are learning about serving others. Today we learned about a time when the Lord spoke to a woman at a well and told her that she would never thirst if she drank the water He offered.

We have added a new phrase to our Memory Verse. We encourage you to help your child remember the verses by repeating the phrase below in the morning, at mealtimes, or before bed. You can see a song with actions at https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/ video-for-i-was-hungry-song/.

Memory Verse

For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink. (Matthew 25:35)

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