



Highrock Small Groups
Lent 2022
Sermon Series Companion

AN INTRODUCTION

DRINK: Lent 2022

“Will you give me a drink?” Have you asked that question of Jesus lately? What do you thirst for? In the Gospel of John, Jesus first reveals he is the Savior, unexpectedly, while at a well, in a conversation with a woman that begins with this simple question. In this six week series, we’ll explore this well-known story, drawing from “the well” to discover what it means to have a thirst-quenching relationship with Jesus, the Spirit, and community.

The Language of Lent

Lent - a season in the Christian calendar leading up to Easter that remembers the events preceding Jesus’ death on the cross

Ash Wednesday - a day of reflection, prayer, and repentance that marks the beginning of Lent; often commemorated with fasting and ashes

Palm Sunday - a day to remember and celebrate Jesus’ arrival to Jerusalem the week before his crucifixion/resurrection; the first day of Holy Week

Maundy Thursday - (also Holy Thursday) the Thursday before Easter commemorating Jesus’ washing of the disciples’ feet and the Last Supper

Good Friday - The Friday before Easter that solemnly remembers Jesus’ crucifixion and death

Easter Sunday - (also Resurrection Sunday) a day to remember and celebrate Jesus’ resurrection from the dead and new life over death for all

Series Schedule & Lenten Holy Days*

March 2	Ash Wednesday*
March 6	Week 1. Wells, Not Fences
March 13	Week 2. Wells: Common Spaces
March 20	Week 3. Wells: Thirst Quenching Water
March 27	Week 4. Wells: Filled to Overflow (on the Holy Spirit)
April 3	Week 5. Wells: Places of Covenants
April 10	Week 6. Wells: A Place to Serve, Palm Sunday*
April 14	Maundy Thursday*
April 15	Good Friday*
April 17	Easter Sunday*

Overview

Within this *Drink* sermon series companion you will find space to take notes on each sermon and Scripture text, reflection questions, prompts to discuss your reflection with others, and a closing prayer. When considering the reflection questions: notice those that resonate with you and spend some time wrestling with them. The goal is not to answer everything or have all the “right” answers—instead, let these questions serve as a starting point for your conversation with God and others. You can “answer” by writing a prayer, a simple word, a phrase, or even “I have no idea right now!” We also encourage you to process what you are learning this Lent in community. Extend your reflection by reaching out to a friend.

Conversation Covenant

I pledge:

To act in good faith, with curiosity. I will assume the best about my conversation partners when entering into our groups. I will give the benefit of the doubt, recognizing that they may know something I don't.

To show respect. I will show respect. I will be polite and give due regard for the feelings and traditions of others. I understand that I do not have to agree with someone to show them respect.

To speak the truth. I won't use rhetorical tricks to try to win an argument. I will speak what I genuinely believe is the nuanced truth.

To aim to discover the truth. I will not enter into a conversation with the purpose of changing the mind of anyone to my way of thinking.

To focus on what we can change. I will focus on what we can do differently in the future since we cannot change what we did in the past.

To take responsibility for the conversation. I will take responsibility for the quality of the conversation and the abidance of the rules both in principle and in spirit.

To follow the covenant even when others fail to do so. I will abide by the rules regardless of whether another person breaks them.

To lighten-up and approach the conversation in good humor. I recognize that humor is a hallmark of a constructive, generative conversation and take the conversation in good humor.

Conversation Covenant adapted from <https://conversational-leadership.net/conversation-covenant/>

WEEK 1: MARCH 6

Wells, Not Fences

LISTEN

Use this space to jot down notes from the sermon.

READ

Read [John 4:1-7](#). What are your initial reactions to the text? Note any curiosities, questions, or interesting points.

REFLECT

- What stood out to you from Pastor Dave's sermon?
- Is there anything in the sermon you disagree with, have questions about, or that came as a new realization?
- Have you come up against other people's fences? What is that like?
- How would you describe fences you have put up? Why might you have established them? What would it be like to begin to take them down?
- In what ways does this week's sermon shift/expand/change your picture of God? Of others? Of yourself?
- Reflect on Pastor Dave's explanation of the purpose of *wells*. How does this function of the well reflect God's instruction to "Love your neighbor"?

RELATE

Bring the reflection of your head/heart into conversation with your community.

Someone I'd like to talk about this with _____.

A next step might be _____.

CLOSING PRAYER (repeat 5x)

INHALE: *God, may I draw in others*

EXHALE: *As you draw me in*

Wells: Common Spaces

LISTEN

Use this space to jot down notes from the sermon.

READ

Read [John 4:1-9](#). What are your reactions to the text? What do you notice this week that was different from last week? Note any curiosities, questions, or interesting points.

REFLECT

- Where do you go to connect with other people? Are those spaces mainly reflecting experiences and opinions that are similar to or different from yours?
- When you think about communal gathering places, do you rush in and out? Imagine taking time to notice who is around you. What does it look like to be present to the people around you? (Think about grocery stores, healthcare spaces, school, church, etc.)
- Out of all the places in town, why do you think Jesus visited the well? Is there anything significant about the well?
- In what ways does this week's sermon shift/expand/change your picture of God? Of others? Of yourself?

RELATE

Bring the reflection of your head/heart into conversation with your community.

Someone I'd like to talk about this with _____.

A next step might be _____.

CLOSING PRAYER (repeat 5x)

INHALE: *God, gather us in*

EXHALE: *And make us your own*

Wells: Thirst Quenching Water

LISTEN

Use this space to jot down notes from the sermon.

READ

Read [John 4:7-14](#). What are your initial reactions to the text? Note any curiosities, questions, or interesting points.

REFLECT

- What do you thirst for? What are the ways you attempt to quench your thirst and are they effective?
- How does it feel to return again and again to things that you know don't fully quench your thirst? What might it be like to have your thirst fully quenched?
- Imagine it was you at the well with Jesus. What might Jesus say to you?
- In what ways does this week's sermon shift/expand/change your picture of God? Of others? Of yourself?

RELATE

Bring the reflection of your head/heart into conversation with your community.

Someone I'd like to talk about this with _____.

A next step might be _____.

CLOSING PRAYER (repeat 5x)

INHALE: *God of living water,*

EXHALE: *Quench my thirst*

Wells: Filled to Overflow (on Holy Spirit)

LISTEN

Use this space to jot down notes from the sermon.

READ

Read [John 4:7-14](#). What are your reactions to the text? What do you notice this week that was different from last week? Note any curiosities, questions, or interesting points.

REFLECT

- Have you ever been around someone who was overflowing with the Holy Spirit? What was the experience like?
- What might your life look like if you not only felt fulfilled, but you were overflowing? What would the impact be for you or for others around you?
- What does it look like for you to “consciously depend” on the Holy Spirit? What about that conscious dependence is easy? What about it is hard?
- Take a moment and think about ways in which you can become increasingly aware of the Holy Spirit in your life this week. How might you consciously depend on the Holy Spirit in this season of your life?
- In what ways does this week’s sermon shift/expand/change your picture of God? Of others? Of yourself?

RELATE

Bring the reflection of your head/heart into conversation with your community.

Someone I’d like to talk about this with _____.

A next step might be _____.

CLOSING PRAYER (repeat 5x)

INHALE: *God who overflows,*

EXHALE: *Fill us with your Spirit*

Wells: Places of Covenants

LISTEN

Use this space to jot down notes from the sermon.

READ

Read [John 4:13-18](#). What are your initial reactions to the text? Note any curiosities, questions, or interesting points.

REFLECT

- Reflect on the idea of wells as a place of covenant. If Jesus' invitation to draw living water is also an invitation to covenant with him, what does that mean to you? What is Jesus offering you vs. asking of you?
- How do you understand the idea of being a spiritual partner with Jesus Christ? How does the framing of 'spiritual partner' affect your current view of your relationship with Jesus?
- A partnership is a two-way street - both partners have to give or contribute something. If we apply that understanding to our spiritual partnership with Jesus, what does the balance look like in your relationship with Jesus? Does anything need to change? What might a faithful balance even look like?
- In what ways does this week's sermon shift/expand/change your picture of God? Of others? Of yourself?

RELATE

Bring the reflection of your head/heart into conversation with your community.

Someone I'd like to talk about this with _____.

A next step might be _____.

CLOSING PRAYER (repeat 5x)

INHALE: *God of the Covenant,*

EXHALE: *Move me to your mission*

Wells: A Place to Serve

LISTEN

Use this space to jot down notes from the sermon.

READ

Read [John 4:7-10; 28-30](#). What are your reactions to the text? Note any curiosities, questions, or interesting points.

REFLECT

- Reflect on the ways that Jesus was a living well, a place that served others. How did Jesus live his life in a way so that he served the people around him?
- What would it look like for you to be a well for others? In what ways would your well serve your community?
- Jesus is Lord of all AND he was also a servant to all, as we see in John 4. For those who follow Christ, German reformation theologian Martin Luther described this as freedom. Luther said of Christian freedom: "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none; a Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."
 - What about this makes sense to you? What about this is confusing?
 - How are you simultaneously subject to none and subject to all in Christ?
- In what ways does this week's sermon shift/expand/change your picture of God? Of others? Of yourself?

RELATE

Bring the reflection of your head/heart into conversation with your community.

Someone I'd like to talk about this with _____.

A next step might be _____.

CLOSING PRAYER (repeat 5x)

INHALE: *God who freely serves,*

EXHALE: *Free us to serve*