* **Pray**
* **Good to be here!**
* I wasn’t here a couple weeks ago, but I heard that my dad started a rumor that I’m opening a “cannabis business”…
  + I’ve been telling him since I was a kid “Dad, if you’re grow it in your backyard, we might as well make a profit off of it”.
    - But he’s always said it’s for “personal reasons”

**Of course I’m kidding**

* **Bible declaration**

**John 7:37-39 (ESV)** “On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, [SIDENOTE: He’s saying it with passion] “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. **38**Whoever believes in me, asthe Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”**39**Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

* **STORY: Mar doesn’t let me have her water at night…**
  + *Then I have a decision to make… How thirsty am I?*
    - *Thirsty enough to get out of my comfy bed?*

**A Thirst that Moves**

* **Some people thirst enough for God to voice it, but not enough to move…**

**What did Jesus say?**

“If anyone thirsts, let him **COME to me** and drink.”

There are benefits to coming to Jesus beyond just that He said to…

-Are you thirsty??

-He will satisfy you!

Let me read a little commentary: Jesus invited everyone who is thirsty to come to Him and drink, but who is thirsty, thirsty for God that is? Everyone should be, but only some are. Spiritual thirst is the longing for more of God, not God’s power, not His gifts, not His blessings, not a miracle, Him. Wanting God and wanting His help aren’t the same thing. Both acknowledge that He exists. But one comes to Him to get something, and the other just wants to be close to Him; one uses Him, and the other loves Him. Part of what distinguishes this seems to have to do with how much a person still loves this world.

- You know, it can be miserable living between a somewhat thirst for God and love for the world.

Why? Because you’re in the middle.

**Revelation 3:15-16 (NKJV)** ““I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.”

How do you identify the lukewarm?

Well, a lukewarm Christian often:

* says the right things
* Maybe shows up to the right places
* And does things for God that cost them little to nothing

BUT are not willing to come to Him or obey Him, when it costs them more than a minor inconvenience.

Do you come to God only because you need something? Or because you love him?

**STORY:** Wrestling Noah last night… starting crying that he was thirsty… Then starting winning… Didn’t care anymore…

Thirsty people often lose their thirst when they start winning.

**Matthew 19:16-22 (NKJV)** Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” **17**So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good but One, *that is,* God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” **18**He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ **19**‘Honor your father and *your* mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ” **20**The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2019:16-22&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-23783d)]from my youth. What do I still lack?” **21**Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” **22**But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

* **Why did he go away sorrowful? Because he was winning!**

We’re all thirsty for something… What are you thirsty for?

**Deuteronomy 22:9** **(NKJV)** “You shall not sow your vineyard with different kinds of seed, lest the yield of the seed which you have sown and the fruit of your vineyard be defiled.

Paul points out in the new testament that the laws of God in the old testament are often trying to teach us something.

What is does this teach us?

**Deuteronomy 22:9** **(NKJV)** “You shall not sow your vineyard with different kinds of seed, lest the yield of the seed which you have sown and the fruit of your vineyard be defiled.

When you plant different seeds, the fruit from it is defiled.

Are you planting different types of seed in your life? Sure, I’ve got the word in there, but what else?

What you’re really thirsty for is what you’ll choose to drink.

**So Jesus said…**

**John 7:37 (ESV)** “On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink”

You notice Jesus compared how we receive from Him to something we need EVERYDAY… Water.

But He doesn’t stop there.

**John 7:38 (ESV)** “**38**Whoever believes in me, asthe Scripture has said, ‘**Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.**”

God never desired for us to just be recipients of the living water, but GIVERS of it.

Let me close with Luke 14…

**Luke 14:26-27 (NKJV)** “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. **27**And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

What is Jesus saying here?

-He’s obviously not saying to literally hate them, since He tells us to love even our enemies…

-However, He’s taking what we love most and saying compared to Me, it must be as if you hate those things.

Football… Chess… It’s not that those things can’t be enjoyed, but there needs to be a gap. A BIG GAP.

How thirsty are you?

* Is your thirst satisfied with a once a week gathering at church?
  + You aren’t that thirsty then.
* Is your thirst quenched from a quick bedtime prayer at night?
  + Then you aren’t that thirsty

-Are you thirsty enough to let go of some things holding you back?

-Are you thirsty enough to dedicate time to Him?

-Are you thirsty enough to do what He’s saying to do?

Church, may we thirst for God… GENUINELY.

God responds to a genuine hunger for Him, not lip service, not religious acts.

Pray