

GOD IS SEEKING WORSHIPPERS

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Key verses: John 4:1-26

INTRODUCTION

The Samaritan woman comes at hottest time of day to avoid gossip – Jesus uses the word of knowledge to open her up to the gospel. Jesus sees her spiritual thirst v13 and Jesus talks to her about living water!

Jesus tells her amazing things – he tells her she is living in an hour when the history of the world will change v23. Jesus tells her a new epoch is coming of the gospel and the outpoured Spirit – **God's living water**.

What characterises this hour?

1. An hour when God is seeking His people

Worshippers of Him from every nation. The goal of global mission is to bring people into worship of Jesus. Jesus tells us that it is not just us who thirst after God. God thirsts to be thirsted after and worshipped.

It's a **season of God's favour** seeking and gathering people from every nation who will worship him through Jesus.

2. **It's an hour** when a new company of worshippers will worship in spirit and truth.

'**Spirit**' means **worship from heart and by his Spirit** – spiritual worship from the heart, not ritual worship – a heart relationship with God who is Spirit. Spiritual worship is acknowledging God in every part our lives.

Truth means we embrace and obey the truth that flows from God and His gospel found in Christ. It has to do with repentance and faith and accepting what God says to us – why Jesus spoke to her about her sinful lifestyle.

3. And such worshippers receive supplies of living water.

Jesus says I can give you living water v14. **A fountain of God's life that keeps bubbling up from within you. Living water from God that quenches a thirsty soul. Jesus' salvation introduces us to a well springing up.** The outpouring of the Spirit was fulfilment of the promise God himself would be present again among his people John 14:23.

These 2 things are decisive to bring change and produce living water in your life – to receive the truth of Christ and his death and resurrection for you on the cross, and the gift of the Holy Spirit – poured out upon us as believers for mission Acts 2:38.

But what about us today – in this hour we are living?

We may love Jesus and gospel truth but what about our experience of the Spirit today? Jesus said in John 7:37 **'whoever believes in me as the Scripture says - will receive rivers of living water within. It's a simple but profound truth** – our believing must lead to receiving. What should we do then?

1. If anyone who is thirsty come to Jesus.

When you go without water for a long time your body gets thirsty and when you go without God your soul gets thirsty. You and I were made to drink of God – to drink of Jesus – nothing is more important.

2. Believe the promise – ask God with faith for living water – the baptism and infilling of Holy Spirit.

Let the Scriptures lead you to an experience with God.

3. Make time to seek God and pray or be prayed for – in worship open up to God to receive his empowering again.

Be persistent in prayer Luke 11:5-13

4. It's for mission – to tell others about Christ. **Let's** go and do that!

In this hour God is seeking worshippers who will worship Him in truth and in spirit that the world may know that Jesus is alive and gives living water! The Samaritan woman found Jesus the living water and she put aside her shame and told the whole village!

They had found the Messiah – see John 4:25-26. And Jesus would soon fulfil that messianic claim by dying on the cross for our sins and rising from the dead for our forgiveness!