

Dig a Well At The Altar

Week 7 - The Altar (9-1-21)

I. Hard Work

A. The depth of your sacrifice determines the depth of your relationship with God.

1. Depth NOT Size

- a) Luke 10:27 - God doesn't want your stuff, He wants your heart.
 - (1) Sometimes He asks us to remove some stuff so He can get to our heart.
- b) Beer-Sheba was a launching pad for deeper things with God
 - (1) Abraham and Isaac - Gen. 22
 - (2) Jacob (Israel) - Gen. 46
 - (3) Elijah - 1 Kings 19
- c) Matt. 23:23 - Weightier matters
 - (1) Their relationship with the Father was very shallow
 - (a) They wanted to focus on the petty exterior matters of the law rather than the more weighty issues of the heart (The whole purpose for the law).
 - (2) They thought that their digging was what was important instead of the water that would be at the bottom of the well.
 - (a) They just dug a bunch of pot-wholes instead of wells.
 - i) wells guide and refresh people
 - ii) pot-wholes make travel slow and difficult
 - (3) They knew all about the God of Abraham, but didn't know Him as THEIR God.
 - (a) John 4 - The Samaritans were still living off of the water provided from Jacob's well. Jesus said they didn't actually know who they worshiped.
 - i) Jesus said that true worshipers would worship God in spirit and in truth.

II. Consistent life

A. Sometimes we are hesitant to come to God because we know that He will want to change us.

- 1. Life means growth/change - we are on an eternal journey of God taking us from one level to the next.
- 2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - All things have already been made new, but there are still things to do
 - a) 2 Corinthians 3:14-18
 - (1) The veil was upon their HEART
 - (2) Where the spirit is, there is freedom... Life!
 - (3) While we are beholding (present tense), are changed from glory to glory BY the Spirit of The Lord.

B. Spend your energy focusing on the source of life

1. If we are feeling spiritually dry, then we have been placing too much of our energy on carnal things - Romans 8:5-6
 - a) When we focus on the spirit we are drawing on life, when we focus on our flesh we are drawing on death.
2. Galatians 5:16-25
 - a) Jesus said that it glorifies God when we bear MUCH fruit. (John 15:8)
 - b) The fruit that we bare benefits those around us!
3. We can't grow to new depths with God when we are too busy filling our well back in with dirt (earth = our carnality).

III. Community

A. Isaac didn't dig the wells by himself.

1. They all worked together for access to this one source of life.
2. This one source of life was the center point of the community/city

B. Baptized into one spirit

1. 1 Corinthians 12:13
 - a) we have been unified by the same source
 - b) The same life that enabled Jesus to do the things that He did is now the center-point of the body of Christ today.
 - c)

C. Wells and marriage

1. we see multiple times in the bible where young men found their future wife at a well.
 - a) Jesus and the Woman at the well (John 4) - God reaching out to the gentiles.
 - b) The church is the bride of Christ - Eph. 5:22-26