

## **LOVING LIFE, PART 16 • Living Water**

Pastor Matt Heard, Read: John 4:1-16

October 6/7, 2007

### **Three Levels**

1. The Reality of my soul's thirst
2. The Options for my soul's thirst
3. The Satisfaction of my soul's thirst

### **Four Life Questions:**

1. Many of us wear hats to show off our allegiances toward a specific sports team or organization. Ultimately, these hats express to others where we find a measure of happiness and/or satisfaction. The reality is that we all have hats on. Others may not see them, but we all wear hats that reveal where we attempt to find happiness. No one else except God sees this hat – but we wear it nonetheless. What team's hat do you wear for all to see? What hat(s) are you wearing today that only God can see?
2. At the beginning of the worship service, everyone was given two saltine crackers. Matt encouraged us to eat one cracker at the beginning of his message. Eating it, then proceeding to listen to a message on *thirst* helped serve as a tangible demonstration of our physical thirst. Have you ever thought to compare your physical thirst for liquid to your spiritual thirst for God? Discuss the two thirsts – their similarities and differences. Are you thirsty for God? Why or why not?
3. At some point on our journey, we must all engage with the reality of our thirst, and the only true source of refreshment – the Living Water that is Jesus Christ. Our soul's thirst must be grappled with! Yet too often we ignore our thirst. Why? Discuss a time in your life when you ignored your thirst for God. What happened? What did you learn from the experience?
4. **THE REALITY OF MY SOUL'S THIRST...** Matt shared the story of NFL Quarterback Tom Brady and his interview on *60 Minutes*. Brady, a 28-year-old superstar who has three Super Bowl rings, told the interviewer that he was impressed with what he has been able to achieve in such a short amount of time. Yet he also admitted that he still felt deep-down inside that there is something greater out there for him. Brady then admitted that he didn't know what it was. Many of us have chased similar career-driven paths, only to find them lacking what truly quenches our soul's thirst – Jesus Christ. Have you ever traveled a faulty path before you engaged with the reality of your soul's thirst? What path(s) did you take? Where did it lead you?
5. **THE OPTIONS FOR MY SOULS THIRST...** Matt referred to Jeremiah 2 and our propensity to seek other options for our thirst. With this in mind, we must look at the options that we run to in our own lives:
  - What do you look to when stress mounts?
  - Where do you turn when you are hurting emotionally?
  - What do you look to for your self-worth?
  - Where do you go when you need approval or personal validation?Read and meditate on Psalm 63:1. Then ask yourself these questions again.
6. **THE SATISFACTION OF MY SOUL'S THIRST...** In John 4:10, Jesus answers the satisfaction question. He knows that He alone satisfies! Have you experienced this satisfaction? If so, share a time in your life when Jesus alone satisfied your spiritual thirst.

Loving  
**Life**  
A Journey  
through  
the Gospel of John