**THIS OR THAT**

**PART 8: QUENCH THE THIRST**

**PERSONAL NOTES**

**OPEN**

1. This is our eighth week in the series THIS OR THAT
2. My entire goal – was to prepare you for 2016
3. Dave Ramsey says, “To live like nobody else you have to live like nobody else.”
4. We are just FIVE days away from 2016!
5. I encourage you to go back and listen/watch ALL of the previous messages

* Part 1: You Decide
* Part 2: The Best Question
* Part 3: Breaking Bad
* Part 4: Birth Of A Habit
* Part 5: Building Healthy habits
* Part 6: Living With Integrity
* Part 7: A Life of Excellence

1. The goal of this entire series is to help you lay a solid foundation to build a healthy life and fulfill all that God has for you.
2. Making good decisions – This or That – to take you higher and further in life!
3. In our final part – Part 8 – I want to talk to you about QUENCH THE THIRST
4. Turn in your Bibles with me to **John 4:1-26**
5. Paraphrase the story here

Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John— 2 although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. 3 So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee.

4 Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

9 The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

11 “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?”

13 Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

16 He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.”

17 “I have no husband,” she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

19 “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

21 “Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews.

23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

25 The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.” 26 Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

INSIGHTS –

1. Jesus loved and accepted her in spite of her flaws.
2. This story shows the compassion of Jesus with people who fail.
3. He is forgiving and understanding
4. He said to those who crucified him “Father forgive them (why?) because they don’t know what they are doing.
5. But I want to use this story to talk about and gain some insight to our marriage relationships.
6. I want 2016 to be the BEST relationship – marriage year EVER!

SINGLE? Don’t shut me out – Learn these principles it will transform your life.

* HEAR ME – If you apply what I talk about today – you will realize you don’t need a husband or a wife to SATISFY you.

1. This woman had FIVE failed marriages!!! FIVE!!!

* “Houston – we have a problem!!!”
* What can we learn from her – so we don’t make the same mistakes in life and relationships??

1. Nobody goes into marriage thinking “I want to fail. I know I’m going to end in divorce.” We are all trying and God wants to help us.
2. Marriage was created by God and it is only successful when it honors His plan and includes His presence.

HIS PLAN?

* When you have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
* Build your house and life – on the ROCK of Jesus!

1. In the garden, it included Adam and Eve and God.
2. It’s important we do MARRIAGE -- GOD’S WAY!
3. Marriage is a spiritual UNION.
4. Sex outside of marriage is sin. The BIBLE is VERY clear on this subject.
5. The age of marriage continues to get later and later in life. WHY? Sex outside of marriage has become common and normal.
6. WHY get married – when you have all the benefits of marriage??

All the SINGLE LADIES:

EX: HEALTH CLUB: Let’s say --- My friend is the manager of a Health Club

1. He lets me come in and workout, use the equipment, enjoy the sauna, showers, lockers, and pool at no charge – without being a member.

* We are “friends with benefits!”

1. WHY WOULD I EVER INVEST IN A MEMBERSHIP IF I HAVE ALL THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP??

* I get all of the perks and benefits of being a member without being a member – COST ME NOTHING!!
* COST ME ZERO
* NO commitment or contract
* I can easily walk away – no strings attached.

1. Have him put a RING on it!
2. KEY: The difference between a close friendship and marriage is SEX and intimacy.

We now return to our regularly scheduled message!!!

THE PROBLEM

1. She was drinking from the wrong well.
2. She was pursuing men to fulfill the needs in her life.
3. She drank them dry and empty – When she wasn’t getting anything from the relationship – she went to find ANOTHER WELL – to quench her thirst????

John 4:13-14  Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

1. The biggest problem in marriages today – in family relationships today is people are looking for other people to fulfill and satisfy them and their need!
2. When Jesus came up to the woman at the well, “Lady, you have a spiritual problem, a void on the inside. If you are trying to get men to solve your problems—if you keep drinking from that well—you are going to be soul thirsty for the rest of your life.”
3. What had happened??????
4. She was seeking a man to fulfill her needs and do what only God can do.
5. You will ALWAYS be dissatisfied when you expect your husband or wife to operate on the level of deity.
6. She expected something from a man he couldn’t give and when he didn’t—she rejected him.
7. Went on to the next one!!!
8. HEAR ME: Your problem is NOT your spouse!!
9. We all have four basic needs. (ONE SLIDE)
10. Acceptance
11. Identity
12. Security
13. Purpose
14. That is what motivates each and every one of us.
15. When we wake up every morning we have four basic needs that drive us in life.
16. WHO or HOW we get those needs met is going to greatly impact our life and relationships!!!
17. Either God is going to meet those needs or you are going to rely on someone else to meet those needs.
18. The Samaritan woman tried to get a husband to meet those needs. So she squeezed the first husband and it didn’t come out. He couldn’t do it,
19. **Principle of Transference:** If we don’t trust Jesus to meet our deepest needs we will automatically transfer those expectations to those closest to us.
20. there have been times when we have transferred the expectations in our life to people and we set them up for failure because they couldn’t be Jesus to us.
21. Your parents, an ex spouse, close friend, business partner, pastor, church….
22. You were not walking with Jesus, trusting Him so you took acceptance, identity, security and purpose and you transferred that to an individual and they let you down.
23. I’m a good pastor – but I am a lousy Jesus!
24. TODAY’S CHURCH CULTURE – People run from one church to another looking for that church, pastor or staff to meet their need!!!
25. When it doesn’t happen – they move to the next church – just like the Samaritan woman did with men!!
26. It may have ended the relationship or it may have caused frustration in that relationship… You are wrong, and maybe that other person was wrong as well, but
27. My encouragement to you is to do an inventory.
28. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you. Ask about those broken relationships, past and present. Are they a result because I tried to make that person Jesus to me.

HERE’S WHAT HAPPENS:

1. We will never be fulfilled.

* People can’t meet our needs.
* We have a God shaped void in our lives and nothing else (not money, pleasure, drinking) will fill it but many search and search.

1. We become discouraged and cynical.

* The marriage rate in America in 1930 was 83 percent (that is how many people were married),
* now it is 49.7 percent are married. It is because of cynicism, we see that it doesn’t work so we decide not to marry, shack up. When you transfer your needs to another person or someone other than God, it is inevitable.

1. We become bitter towards people and we reject them.

* So the Samaritan woman married a second husband, tried to squeeze him for what only God could provide for her, and then discarded him.
* After several more she probably just said, you can’t trust men.

* Dare you to take an inventory of your life!!!
* Wounds, scars, fractured relationships = are actually due to US – OUR EXPECTATIONS – OUR NEEDS NOT BEING FILLED??
* PERSONAL EX:

1. We set people up for failure because they couldn’t be “Jesus” to us.

* When you have a problem, where do you go first? Friend? Web? Credit Card? Store?
* When you have Internal worry, fear? Where do you go first?
* Even though you love and believe in Jesus, do you trust Him?
* Do you trust him with your children? Do you trust him your finances, relationships, life, to come through and change things.
* When you wake up every morning where do you go first? To Jesus? Start your time with Him. Have your quiet time? journal—not a religious experience, just connect. We need God to encourage us, heal us, we have needs, fears, anxieties. We have issues that only God can solve. It will change every relationship in our lives.

SO WHAT DOES THAT RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS LOOK LIKE???

**When We Rely On Jesus To Meet Our Need**

1. Our inner security becomes unlimited.

**When We Rely On Jesus To Meet Our Need**

1. Our ability to give is only limited by our capacity to drink from the water of life.

**When We Rely On Jesus To Meet Our Need**

1. We are able to love people for who they are and not based upon what they can do for us.

* Healthy Statement: “I love you and life is wonderful with you but its possible without you.”
* Unhealthy Statement: “I can’t live without you, I can’t go on without you.”

**When We Rely On Jesus To Meet Our Need**

1. We will attract people to us.
2. People become defensive and guarded when they feel we are always wanting something from them that they don’t feel they can give.
3. Your circle of friends will increase.
4. We become a fountain of life VERSUS a DRAIN!

THIRST QUENCHER:

1. Come boldly into His presence.
2. Bask in His Word daily.
3. Allow Him to be the center of your world.

IN HIS PRESENCE

THE CHAIR EXAMPLE – Pull two chairs facing each other on the stage. Sit down and talk to the empty chair as though Jesus was sitting right there with you.

(Jesus – I am going to illustrate this live. Having musicians play music behind. Rather than telling them – I’m going to SHOW them how I connect and talk with God. Be transparent and SEE how a relationship should work.)

**John 4:23-24** “Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

**Psalm 16:11** You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

**James 4:8** Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

CLOSE – THIS OR THAT?

1. Are you going to seek people to fulfill and satisfy you? Or Jesus?
2. In your notes – there are five blank lines – write down when, where, how you are going to daily seek him and include him in your daily life.

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