

Where Faith Leads

Encounter, Curiosity, Living Water, and the Journey of Faith

The Daily devotional for August 18: The God Who Meets Us Where We Are

Reading: *John 4:1-10*

Jesus did not wait for the Samaritan woman to come to him prepared, cleaned up, or theologically ready. He met her at a well in the middle of the day, in the heat, in the ordinary. He asked for water. He was thirsty. This is the God we follow — one who enters our most unremarkable moments and makes them sacred. Consider where you are today. You do not need to travel far or arrive somewhere impressive. God is already seated at the well of your ordinary life, asking simply to be let in.

Reflection Question: Where in your daily routine might God be trying to meet you right now?

Practical Application: Identify one ordinary moment today — a meal, a commute, a quiet break — and intentionally pause to acknowledge God's presence in it.

The Daily devotional for August 19: Crossing the Boundaries That Divide Us

Reading: *Galatians 3:26-28*

The Samaritan woman named the divisions immediately. Jew and Samaritan. Man and woman. Insider and outsider. She knew all the reasons the conversation should not happen. Yet Jesus crossed every boundary without pretending those boundaries did not exist. He simply refused to let them be the final word. The passage in Galatians reminds us that in Christ, the categories that divide us lose their power over us. This does not mean differences disappear, but it means they no longer determine who deserves dignity, conversation, or love. The walls we build are real. Christ is more real still.

Reflection Question: What category or boundary do you find most difficult to cross in your relationships with others?

Practical Application: This week, initiate a genuine conversation with someone outside your usual social circle, approaching them with curiosity rather than assumption.

The Daily devotional for August 20: The Living Water We All Thirst For

Reading: *John 7:37-39*

Everyone at the well was thirsty. Jesus was thirsty for water. The Samaritan woman was thirsty for something she may not have been able to name — belonging, dignity, freedom from her past, someone who would see her fully and not turn away. Jesus offered her living water, something that would satisfy the deeper thirst beneath the surface thirst. We all carry that deeper thirst. We long for love, for meaning, for someone to truly see us. The good news of this story is that Jesus already knows what we are thirsting for before we can even articulate it ourselves.

Reflection Question: What is the deeper thirst beneath the surface needs you are carrying right now?

Practical Application: Spend five minutes in honest prayer, naming your deepest longings to God without filtering or polishing them. Simply bring your thirst to the well.

The Daily devotional for August 21: Leaving the Water Jar Behind

Reading: *Philippians 3:7-11*

She came to the well carrying a water jar. She left without it. Something happened in that conversation that mattered more than the practical errand she had come to complete. The water jar represents the small, manageable concerns we carry into our encounters with God — our to-do lists, our routines, our self-sufficiency. Paul writes of counting former things as loss for the sake of knowing Christ. The woman did not plan to leave her jar. The encounter simply changed her priorities in an instant. When we truly meet Jesus, something always gets left behind, and we are not poorer for it.

Reflection Question: What are you holding onto that an encounter with Christ might be inviting you to set down?

Practical Application: Write down one habit, assumption, or preoccupation that may be keeping you from deeper engagement with God or with others. Prayerfully offer it to God this week.

The Daily devotional for August 22: Come and See — Sharing the Story You Already Have

Reading: *1 Peter 3:15-16*

The Samaritan woman did not return to town with a sermon or a theological argument. She returned with a question and an invitation: come and see. She shared what she had experienced, even while still wondering herself. This is the simplest and most honest form of witness — telling your own story. You do not need a degree or a perfectly constructed faith to share the good news. You need only the willingness to say what has changed in you, what you have encountered, and to invite someone else to come and see for themselves. Your story is enough.

Reflection Question: If someone asked you today why you follow Christ, what would you tell them?

Practical Application: Write two or three sentences describing what your faith means to you personally. Practice saying them aloud. Be ready to share them naturally when the opportunity arises.