



This week we looked at Jesus' words, "I am thirsty" in John 19v28. When we're physically thirsty we long for a drink to quench us. But this verb is synonymous with longing after anything. We thirst for knowledge, thirst for love, thirst for satisfaction and meaning in life. Often we try to find quenching of our thirst in things of this world – entertainment, nature, relationships, power/success. We came to understand that the reason we thirst for satisfaction so much is because we in our broken relationship with our heavenly Father and true satisfaction is missing, as only he supplies it through Jesus. In John 4:13-14 Jesus makes a promise that anyone who comes to him will never thirst. How does Jesus fulfil his promise?

Jesus thirsts so we don't have to.

Jesus makes many other promises in the gospels as well as offering everlasting quenching of our thirst. But at the cross we see Jesus in weakness, darkness and in death. But John makes it clear that Jesus' death is no accident, no failure but part of God's plan. He is fulfilling scripture and by his death he is rescuing us from death and everlasting thirst. How so? After Jesus says, "I am thirsty" soldiers offer him a drink of wine vinegar. This action fulfils Psalm 69v21. Ps 69 is all about David suffering unjustly by his enemies. It points forward to Jesus who was the most righteous man but also suffered at the hands of his enemies. Jesus who is righteous, suffers for us who are sinful. Jesus thirsts for us as he bears the judgement of God on himself as our substitute. So we will never thirst but how do we drink of the living water?

Jesus thirsts so we can drink the living water

Jesus' resurrection gives assurance that eternal life is possible and given to all those who trust in him. Believing in Jesus leads to never thirsting and also

receiving 'rivers of living water flowing from within them' John 7v38, which is the Holy Spirit. Living water is found in our relationship with God through Jesus by the Holy Spirit. Jesus satisfies us in every way we need. We can enjoy his drink now as we worship but await the final quenching when Jesus returns and we'll be with him. Revelation 21-22 tells us about the drink Jesus will offer us when we see him on that last day. When we are thirsty in this life we will only find quenching in him.

Here are some questions to get some discussion started...

What does it mean to thirst for something? Why do we have a thirst for satisfaction, meaning and life? What does the Bible say? (Romans 1v18-25)
What are some of things in this world that we try to quench our thirst with? Do they satisfy?

Read John 19v28-30 & Ps 69v21

Remind one another what is happening at the cross? How is Jesus fulfilling scripture in our verses today?

What other allusions are there to OT passages? (Ps 69:3; Ps 22:15 – spiritual thirst Ps 42:1-2 63:1) In what other ways does Jesus fulfil scripture in John 19? (v24, v36, v37)

Where else in Ps 69 quoted or alluded to in John's gospel? (Ps 69:4 – Jhn 15:25; Ps 69:8 – Jhn 7:3-5; Ps 69:9 – Jhn 2:17) If Jesus is the righteous sufferer what therefore, is Jesus doing for us on the cross?

How do we stop thirsting after this world and receive Jesus' living water? (John 6:35; 7:37b-39) What should it look like to enjoy the gifts God has given us in creation without them becoming our idols/objects of worship?

Share some testimonies of how you/others have found thirst quenched in Jesus?

How do you quench your spiritual thirst through your relationship with God? What does it look like to experience God in worship?

Can we use our 24 hours of prayer this weekend to ask God to quench our thirst and pray that our community would find satisfaction/living water in Jesus alone?

What hope do we have of living water on the final day when Jesus returns? (Revelation 21:6; 22:17)