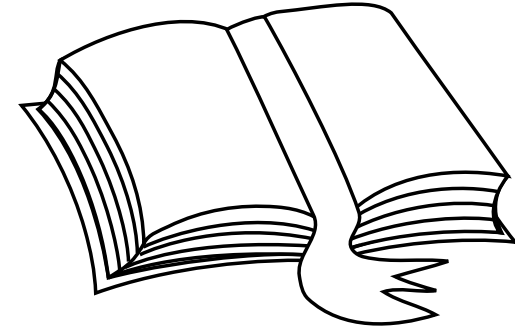


- B. What is the necessary payment?
- C. It seems as if it would be easy to receive gifts from others, doesn't it? Yet that is not always true.

1. What possible reactions do people have to gifts?
2. Why is it sometimes hard for us to freely receive gifts from others? From God?
3. What evidence is there in people's lives that we are not always willing to receive God's gift of living water and eternal life as really *free*?
4. What kind of results will there be in our lives if we really do receive God's gift as a completely free gift?

NOTES



I'M THIRSTY

SECTION I. Introduction

- A. Do you know what percentage of the human body is water?
- B. About how long do you think humans can live without water?
- C. Can you think of a time in your life when you were very thirsty? How did you react?
- D. Do we have a spiritual thirst that is just as strong as our physical thirst?

SECTION II. Our bodies themselves are made up mostly of water, and we can live only a short time without it. Obviously it is very important, even basic, to physical life. The Bible often speaks of *water* in a spiritual sense as well. Read Psalm 42:1-2.

- A. How does the writer describe his desire for God?
- B. What do you think he means by *see God's face*?

- C. Do you know anyone who feels this strong *thirst* for God?

- D. When have you felt a thirst for God? Describe that time in your life. How did your thirst for God show itself?

SECTION III. In Old Testament times, before the birth of Jesus, many of God's people longed or thirsted for God. In Isaiah 55:1-3, Isaiah speaks about God's offer of spiritual refreshment. Read Isaiah 55:1-3.

- A. Who is invited to come?

- B. What is being offered?

- C. Do the people have to pay anything or do anything?

- D. What is the *promise* that God made to David? Read 2 Samuel 7:16.

SECTION IV. Many years after Isaiah wrote the words in Isaiah 55:1-3 Jesus came into the world to fulfill the promise God made to David. In the Gospel of John it says that Jesus talked about both thirst and water. Read John 7:37-38.

- A. When we experience a thirst in our lives, a desire for something more, where are some places we *look* to find a way to satisfy that thirst?

- B. According to this passage, if we are thirsty, where should we go?

- C. How can we receive this *living water*?

SECTION V. Another time, Jesus spoke about water. Jesus was sitting at a well and asked a woman there to give Him a drink of water. The woman talked with Jesus about the water in that well. Jesus told her about another kind of water. Read John 4:13-14.

- A. In this passage, which kinds of water are being talked about?

- B. What will happen to those who drink the water from that earthly well?

- C. What does Jesus say will happen to those who drink the water that Jesus gives us?

- D. How can we tell the difference between earthly water and spiritual water? Which are you seeking?

SECTION VI. Since the time of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, God had promised a Savior. He had also promised David that his kingdom would never end. Isaiah talked about that promise to David. In the New Testament, we read again about that promise, the promise that Jesus fulfilled and the living water that He offers us. Read Romans 6:23.

- A. What is the gift promised in Isaiah and given by God?