**John 4**

I. The Passage

A. This woman’s thirst for physical water and her constant coming to the well was a perfect picture of her spiritual thirst for companionship, security, and worth and her constantly going to men to try to fill it.

B. Jesus lovingly confronts her with her own thirst/neediness and graciously offers her a water that is so much better than anything she’s tasted before.

1. v. 10 is such an inviting statement: the gift of God, who it is who is speaking, living water

2. v. 13 gets at the heart of Jesus’ promise: a spiritual water that takes on a life of its own when it gets inside you and lasts for all eternity

3. The temporary promises of this world can never fully and permanently fulfil the deep thirsts of the human heart that only God can satisfy

C. This woman leaves behind her bucket at the well and that spring of living water starts welling up inside her as she shares her excitement with the whole town.

II. What are the wells you draw from to satisfy your thirst?

 A. Money, Possessions, and Comfort

 B. Relationships and Sex

C. Respect, Success, and Human approval

 D. Other

III. What are ways you can go to Jesus in this new year to satisfy your thirst and be filled up with him?

 A. Spending time with him in prayer and the Word each day

B. Doing some of your same old things in a different way (prayer as listening to God not just speaking to him, reading the Bible more devotionally rather than just as study, etc.)

 C. Filling yourself up with the promises of God in Scripture (Romans 8)

D. Pursuing the ways God has uniquely wired you and the ways you connect with him (through nature, music, a hobby, service, etc.)

E. Pursuing more intentional Christian community/friendships

F. Taking on some new intentional posture this year (releasing your need for control, gratitude, etc.)

**Discussion Questions**

1. Looking back over your holiday season, how did you see God at work in or around you?

2. Consider the story of Jesus’ encounter with the woman at the well. What stood out to you this Sunday as we walked through that story?

3. As you considered the wells you tend to go to in order to fill your thirst and satisfy your needs, what came to mind for you?

4. As you consider going to Jesus to satisfy your needs and desires, is there anything specific you hope to do or change in this new year?