



Theme: Drink from Living Waters

Sermon Notes:

- Wall Drug originally became famous for giving out _____.
- **Agree or Disagree:** The beautiful description of heaven in Revelation 21 will not be fully appreciated unless we understand that it stands in contrast to the agony of hell described at the end of Revelation 20.
- To try to cover up the stench of our sins is like spraying perfume on a _____. Why do you think pastor used that illustration? (hint: look up Ephesians 2:1-10)
- Adding false teachings to the pure Word of God is like adding cryptosporidium to drinking water. List out some of the commonly added false teachings that were either mentioned in the sermon or other ones that come to your mind.
- Why would it be comforting for the Apostle John to see that there was no longer any sea in heaven?

Growth Group Study Guide

For the week of May 19, 2019



Opening Prayer

My Story:

What is your beverage of choice and why?

Envision an idyllic scene by a peaceful lake (either a lake you have been to or one you wish you could visit). Now describe that scene to the group. What makes it so peaceful and idyllic?

Digging In:

Please read Revelation 21:1-6. Describe the comfort of each of these words from the text:

- New
- Beautifully dressed
- He will dwell with them
- Old order of things has passed away
- Alpha and Omega
- Water without cost

Using your own words, explain why the Bible frequently uses a wedding/marriage to describe heaven and God's relationship with the Holy Christian Church.

Revelation 21 doesn't directly reference baptism yet Sunday's sermon spent a considerable amount of time talking about baptism. Search the following passages (top of page 3) and explain the connection between baptism and Revelation 21:2.

- Ephesians 5:25-27
- Titus 3:5

A bride and groom likely spend a considerable amount of time getting themselves prepared for the wedding. How do we prepare for the marriage celebration that will take place when Christ returns? Do you think you would spend more time preparing if you knew the day when Christ is coming back? Why or why not?

Glance over all of Revelation 21. Why did the Holy Spirit inspire the Apostle John to include verse 8 & 27?

- The same author of Revelation wrote in Sunday's gospel reading, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35). How can a Christian talk about hell and still show love to others?
- Try to come up with at least three reasons why it is important for us to continue to teach the Scriptural doctrine of hell.

Application:

In the sermon, pastor used 4 cups of water and said that two are contaminated. He asked if you would want to investigate before drinking. Explain how a person can "investigate" a church before joining.

Imagine that you are meeting a new neighbor and they say they are looking for a new church. Now is your opportunity to invite them to your church! Develop a short invitation that you might use for that new neighbor. Try to include the following words in that invite:

- Jesus
- Refreshing
- Good news
- Water

If God's pure Word is like refreshing water, what are your favorite passages that quench your thirst? Think of two people in your life that need to hear those refreshing passages. How will you share it with them? Will it be through a personal conversation? A text message? A hand-written note? Make sure you share it with them within this next week and report back to the group next week!

Write out a prayer thanking God for the gift of his Word which you have studied this past month in growth group. If willing, share it next week at Growth Group.

Closing Prayer Suggestion:

Choose a favorite hymn or contemporary Christian song that describes heaven. Read (or sing) the words of this song as the closing prayer.