
Living Water

Part 3 - Life Flows In

We are in a series on Living Water, over the next several weeks we will speak into the significance of our name and who God is calling us to be.

“If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” John 7:37-38 (ESV)

“...so everything will live where the river goes.” Ezekiel 47:9 (ESV)

The River(s) in Genesis 2

- + One River that flows in and through Eden

- + Splits into four rivers
 - Pishon
 - Gihon
 - Tigris
 - Euphrates

As a part of the poetic beginning of the Bible narrative, the river from Eden, and then the four rivers coming from it, represents God’s presence flowing from God’s initial resting place.

“The river of Eden was the place of God’s abode and the source of life-giving water for the earth that flowed through the rivers” (Walton, 2001)

“In every case the river is symbolic of the life-giving presence of God”
(Wenham 1987)

What this passage suggests to us:

“The river of God’s life giving presence is flowing through the land of suffering”

Science alert: colloidal gold is fine particles of gold that, when suspended in water, turn to a rich red colour.

When the water turns red, God’s life is getting ready to flow into the land of suffering.

Exodus 7: The Ten Plagues of the Exodus

Exodus 32: The Golden Calves

John 2: Jesus’ First Miracle

John 19: The Crucifixion

God's Life Flowing into our Place of Suffering

Exodus 3: God Hears

God hears the cries of the people and begins the process of delivering them.

God desires us to be free from our slave drivers.

John 10:10: God's Life

Jesus came to bring us life – life to the full.

Jesus died and rose again, so that your sin and mine could be overcome – the water turned red on the cross.

Our Response

He desires that His life will flow into your place of suffering. When it does, God desires to free you from your slave drivers.

Do you want to respond to His offer of life-giving water?

Discussion Questions

1. The poetic nature of the beginning of Genesis gives us a lot to think about. Read through Genesis 1-3 and see how the section in Genesis 2:10-14 fits into the whole story.
2. The rivers represent God's life and presence. What does the idea of God's presence flowing through your life mean to you?
3. What would that look like for the places of pain and suffering in your life?
4. The ongoing picture of the "water turning red" is a reminder that God's life is present amidst the circumstances of life. What areas of your life need God's presence to flow in?
5. When God's presence flows into our lives, it's a reminder that He is coming to save us from sin and slavery. What have been some of the slave drivers in your life (the things that you are in slavery to)?
6. What would it look like for God to take you out from under that slave driver?
7. Spend some time praying together, that God's life would flow into the areas of suffering, and God would bring the hope of deliverance from slave drivers for each person.
8. For each person: allow God to take those things that have held you in slavery. Your volitional act of surrender is powerful, and allows God to remove the power of the slave drivers from your life.
9. Spend some time sharing and encouraging one another in what God has been doing amongst you.