

Title: **True Satisfaction...to Never Thirst Again**  
Text: **John 4:1-26**  
Date: **July 2, 2023**

Find the sermon manuscript to follow along with online at [mercyhillchurch.org](http://mercyhillchurch.org).



## Big Idea

Jesus is the true satisfaction of our every thirst and desire. His offer of salvation, reconciliation with the Father, and eternal life is the living water that quenches all of our thirst. And our response to this offer is one of repentance and worship.

## Our Resistance to God

Our normal disposition is that of resistance towards God. Either due to past hurts or unfortunate circumstances, we often reject God, shaking our fists at him either directly or indirectly. This normal resistance is the natural way of man. Martin Luther explains this as: "man [is] so curved in upon himself that he uses not only physical but even spiritual goods for his own purposes and in all things seeks only himself" (Luther's Works, vol. 25, p. 345, see also pp. 291-92).

The natural question though is how does Jesus handle this Samaritan's rejection of his words? This will give us a hint to God's disposition towards us.

## God's Disposition towards Us

Jesus' response to the Samaritan woman is always that of inviting her deeper into the reality of things. Jesus expertly pulls at the thread of her heart to gently break down her defenses so she can see him for who he is - the Messiah.

In every and all situations, God's disposition towards his children is always that of love. Even in our resistance and rebellion against him, God longs to enfold us in his loving arms. As we put up resistance after resistance, Jesus is consistently redirecting the conversation to that which can truly satisfy her - namely Christ himself. This is what Jesus offers me and you.

## True Satisfaction

Scottish preacher, Eric Alexander says the empty water jar the woman has with her is maybe metaphorical of her life. And the living water she doesn't know she seeks is Jesus himself. This is often the case with me and you. And the only thing that can satisfy our thirst is Jesus himself, and this starts with trusting Christ - which is the beginning of our worship!

## How Should We Respond?

If I may give you a charge, I would ask 3 things of you:

- Be open and sensitive to the movement of God on your heart.
- In our openness to God, our next step must be repentance. We must repent and return to him (cf Isa 30) - this is not a one time thing but an ongoing activity for all of life.
- The proper response to God's open invitation is Worship. This starts with truly relying on Christ. And then this works itself out in every facet of our lives - our thoughts, our actions, our motivations.



## Reflection Questions

- How open are you to Christ today? What are you holding back from him? You are never far too gone for Christ to enfold you in his love.
- What are your thirsts? What ails your heart? Would you be open to the loving gaze of Christ? Would you let him redirect the conversation to the only one that can truly satisfy your thirst?

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## Our Mission & Values

*Mercy Hill Church exists to help restore us to God, neighbor, and city through the good news of Jesus Christ.*

**FAITH:** The Way Back to God | We are redeemed to enjoy intimate relationship with him. This value presses our church *upwards* in love for God.

**COMMUNITY:** The Way Back to Christ, adopted in the Beloved relationship with his people. This value presses our church *inwards* in love for one another.

**MISSION:** The Way the Embassy of Christ, Savior to be his ambassadors. This value presses our church *outwards* in love for the unbelieving.

## Your Next Steps

When approaching the Christian faith and life, it can be confusing to know where to even begin. Come find us at the Next Steps Table after the service—it would be our joy to help you along in the journey! And if you're a visitor, we have a special gift bag for you. Don't miss it!



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Welcome to Mercy Hill Church.  
We are so glad you've joined us today!

## Announcement Spotlight

### All Church Hangout - Today!

Meaningful community is hard to find in Silicon Valley, even in the church. Our congregation is spread out all over the city. But there is one day of every week when we all commit to gather together and worship our God: Sunday. It seems strategic to take this pre-existing momentum and work with it in an attempt to develop deeper community within our body. Therefore, on occasional Sundays throughout the year we will invite the church to enjoy picnic-style afternoons together immediately following the service.

*The Plan: After service, bring or buy your lunch and join us at the tables out back for a picnic-style afternoon. In view of the upcoming Independence Day holiday, we'll provide root beer floats for all and water balloons for the kids. We'll also open the gym for people to play in! (Note: If it's too hot outside, we may decide to eat lunch in the building.)*

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at [info@mercyhillchurch.org](mailto:info@mercyhillchurch.org).

### Mercy Hill Kids - Tide-pooling Beach Day Adventure!

Mercy Hill Families! We are so excited for our next summer adventure! On Saturday, July 8th we will be having a tide-pooling beach day at Bean Hollow State Beach! We would love to have some time to fellowship with you and rejoice in God's beautiful creation!

Please scan the QR code below for more info and to let us know if you can make it! Hope to see you all there!

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Megan Weber at [kids@mercyhillchurch.org](mailto:kids@mercyhillchurch.org)

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