

## I. set the table...

Richard Foster said, "the desperate need today is not for a great number of intelligent people, or gifted people but for deep people."

### A. Last week we started a series EOSG –

#### 1. Point1 : God is responsible for our spiritual growth – not our efforts! Intellectual, moral, rational, ethical

1 Co. 6: I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. (Paul and Appolos were tools-not the source)

#### 2. Point 2: God uses many different tools and implements to grow us -

#### 3. Point 3: We cannot be emotionally immature and spiritually mature, the 2 are not compatible

**Transition-** We must understand that our spiritual growth (the food for our spirits) comes through a means that is deep non-superficial, invisible, often offensive and hidden from our natural-outer man.

1 Co. 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

### B. We must learn to dig deep in order to get beyond the superficial

**Flow** – Recently, I had dinner with a friend, who is still grieving the loss of his 15 yr old son who died from a life of Luekemia – we cried as he shared with me the depth of pain, joy and purpose of his son- He told me many stories of joy! He also shared how he dreams often of his boy showing up and encouraging his father.

Have you ever noticed, often, those that have suffered much loss, tend to be real? And struggle with superficial, disingenuous?

Ps 42:7 "Deep calls to deep at the sound of your waterfalls all your breakers and waves roll over me" -Cry during a time of trouble (A deep need requires a deep work in order to bring about a deep connection with the Holy Spirit)

**Transition-** As we look at Jn 4 we will see Jesus digging deep as he moves past the superficial to speak with the woman at the well.

## II. Read Jn 4 (overview) consider this verse –

### A. His reputation was spreading and news is travelling fast...

### B. Jesus travels about 70 miles which would take them about 2.5 days - wearied and exhausted

#### 1. Samaria was the fastest route to Galilee but not the route typical to the Jewish people

\*\*Jn. 4:4 Must go through Samaria the "guardianship" (Jesus must be allowed to touch the depth of our brokenness)

#### 2. Jesus said he needed to do this - **not a want to but a need to** - difficult to change habits and perspectives

### C. He asks the woman for a drink - **dealing with years of negative thought patterns of prejudice and hatred**

Begin to read Jn 4:7-18

#### 1. Begins a dialog with her about the difference between spiritual and natural drink

#### 2. Explains that natural drink is a consumable resource as opposed to a renewable resource

#### 3. At some point she "gets it"! she is awakened to this (naturally hidden) spiritual resource

### D. Vs. 31 the subject of food surfaces again but with the returned disciples urging Him to eat

Jn 4:32 ..."I have food to eat of which you do not know."

What does Jesus mean when He says, "I HAVE FOOD-YOU ARE NOT AWARE OF"?

1. Jesus reveals a depth of provision that comes only from God and they are unaware of it -
2. Our growth, development, maturity are in relation to prioritizing the will of God above everything, I mean everything!

a) *What we think, feel and do.... This is a lesson "allowing Jesus to touch" and get guardianship over our appetites- prejudices- habits.*

b) *Deny yourself from the demand of the immediacy- I have to do this now, this is what we do, this is the way I have always done it.*

Our Spiritual maturity will grow at the pace of our emotional maturity!

c) *We find depth and growth out what we grow through in discovering our deep need of Jesus.*

3. When we dig deep privately we are able to meet a deep need in others!

(private victories equal public victories)

### III. How do we receive this secret source of strength?

- A. **Take time to dig deep**- expose vulnerable areas in Christ!
- B. **Make a commitment** to go deep when we get pressed
- C. **Stay in the pocket** – don't run!