

News Story Summary

The water in Flint, Michigan has been unfit for human consumption for some time because of lead contamination in the pipes. A few months ago, Mayor Karen Weaver and retired Brig. Gen. Michael C. McDaniel reported that they do not anticipate the water being drinkable until every service line has been removed. Lead levels have tested 15 parts per billion in the past six months, but McDaniel said he wants to see lead levels consistently below 10 ppb. It's a process that will be complete by the end of 2019, if there is enough funding.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase “cleaning Flint water pipes.”)

Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, share the news story. Lead the group to discuss the side effects of lead contaminated water and the benefits of cleansing the water.

In Psalm 32, David urged those who had contaminated their lives with sin to confess and seek cleansing from God. During the session, contrast the side effects David experienced because of unconfessed sin with the side effects of contaminated water, and contrast the benefits David experienced for being cleansed from sin with the benefits of cleansing the water.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge ideas, remind the group of the news article. Ask: *Why do you think anyone would continue to drink water knowing it was contaminated? Why do you think some Christians continue to live with unconfessed sin?* Point out that when the side effects of contaminated water and the side effects of unconfessed sin become apparent, people will act to cleanse the water or, in the case of unconfessed sin, cleanse their lives. Emphasize that David's unconfessed sin caused him deep distress, so he confessed and called out to God for cleansing. Remind group members of last week's challenge and the simple heartfelt prayer of confession that will not only provide restoration, but will also provide cleansing.