

Conversations at a Well...

Learning
to Be Salt in
Challenging
Times

Lesson #5: September 6, 2020

“Now You Try”

Sermon Notes:

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20 (Message)

1. Knowing what God wants of us means nothing if we don't put it into action.

2. Like all learning, being graceful, accepting and constructive requires a lifetime of continual training.

*Listen to this sermon at
www.cordelefirst.com/sermons*

**Weekly Devotional Guide and Sermon Notes
for September 7-12, 2020**

Monday, September 7 Read Psalm 51

David's classic psalm of confession and repentance pointedly includes an understanding of his responsibility to pass on the lessons and experience of God he has gained (vv.13 and following). How is this pattern of confession, repentance, evangelism and worship a necessary for our daily discipleship? Why? _____

How might that pattern unfold in your personal life? _____

Tuesday September 8 Read Deuteronomy 6:1-19

For Jews (and indeed for Christians via Jesus' teaching in Matthew 22:34-40), this is a foundational passage, core to their identity as God's people. What sinful human tendency is being warned of here? _____

Why is focused education vital in avoiding this failing? _____

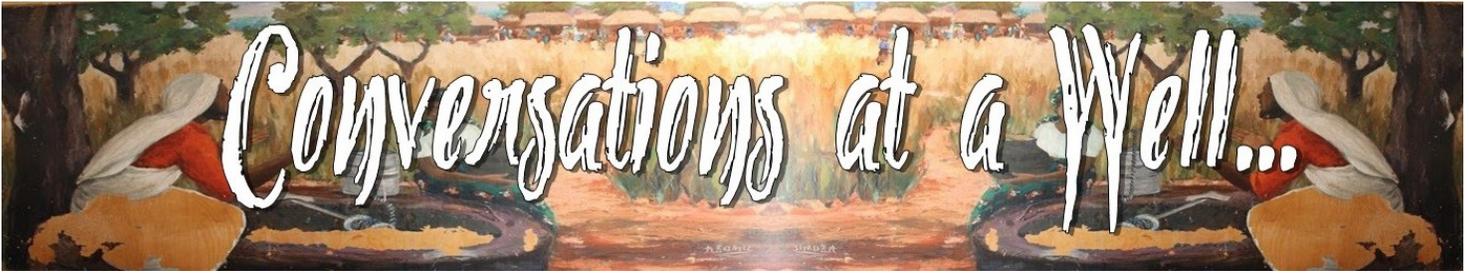
Wednesday, September 9 Read John 4:28-30;39-42

Notice that Jesus doesn't order the woman to go and tell her neighbors. She simply has to share her experience. Notice also that she doesn't claim to have everything all figured out (see v.29) but shares her experience and invites others to meet Jesus. Why are modern Christians often so hesitant to share their faith and what excuses do we offer for not doing so? _____

What might the Samaritan woman say to that? _____

Thursday, September 10 Read Matthew 28:16-20

In this "Great Commission" Jesus makes it clear that the task of his disciples, right down to us, is to continue



to bring others into the Body and equip them to take that task onto themselves as well. Given all we've explored in this series, reflect on some ways we can fulfill this mission in our contentious times. What part, specifically, are you willing to be a part of this task? How can we as a church become better focused on our purpose? _____

Friday, September 11 Read 1 Timothy 4:1-16

In what ways are Paul's instructions here to Timothy similar to the warnings given to the Israelites in Tuesday's Deuteronomy reading? _____

While this is of course a command to instruct and guide one another in the faith, in what ways is it also an attitude and a mindset? _____

Try rephrasing Paul's instructions to Timothy as if he were addressing the concerns of today. What would be different and what would be the same? _____

Saturday, September 12 Read Colossians 3:12-17

In this series we used the acronym SALT (from Matthew 5:13) to help guide us in being better witnesses to Christ in troubling times. How might those guides- confessing our Sinfulness, Accepting all in fellowship, Listening lovingly and carefully and Training each other in order to hone our witness- be seen in the lessons Paul shares here with the Colossians? _____

How might God be calling us to fulfill the promise of v.15? _____

**A New Sermon Series
beginning September
13...**



Wildernesses are scary places that show us all too clearly our weaknesses and fears. Throughout the Bible, however, God uses these times in the wilderness as places of teaching and opportunities for trust and expositions of holy power. Though we may not be wandering in the Judean desert, we have our own wildernesses of fear, doubt and worry. In September we'll experience some of that Biblical wilderness and listen closely for God's word of love and strength to us in our own empty and scary places.