4 Things Christians Can Learn from The Story of the Woman at the Well

1. Jesus alone is the Living Water that fills our void.

Just as the Samaritan woman was looking to men to satisfy her soul, we also look to things outside of Christ to give our hearts meaning and purpose (John 4:14). However, as Jesus revealed Himself to her, he sought to show her that He was the never-ending water she was so thirsty for (John 7:38).

Jesus is the living water that we need. When we put our faith and trust in Him as the Living Water, we can bank on the fact that the well will never run dry (Psalm 37:4). He will never tire of us. He will never dissatisfy. He will never turn us away. He is the unending source of peace, joy, love, self-control, truth, hope, and satisfaction (Galatians 5:22-23). Abundant life can only be found in Him (John 10:10).

2. Jesus is not fazed by our sin. The woman perceived Jesus as a prophet because He gently called out her sin and "told me everything I ever did" (John 4:29). Jesus is sovereign and sees the sin within our hearts (1 Timothy 5:15). He knows our desires, and yet He still pursues us and loves us (Romans 3:23). He is not surprised by our evil desires, but rather He seeks to reconcile us to the Father in spite of them (Hebrews 7:25). Colossians 1:19-20 says: "For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross."

3. Jesus is our Savior-King.

Just as the Samaritan woman did not fully understand who Jesus was at first, we also need Jesus to open our eyes to the reality of who He is (Psalm 146:8, Ephesians 4:18). It is only in Jesus that we will be saved from our sins and made new in Christ (Titus 3:5, Galatians 2:20). Jesus puts our sin and shame to death on the cross and calls us to walk in His light (John 8:12, 1 John 1:7, Psalm 27:1). He gives us new desires and a new purpose, that will not be found in any earthly thing, but only in His kingdom (Colossians 3:4-10, Matthew 6:33, Romans 8:28).

4. Our life should overflow into the exaltation of the Messiah.

When Jesus is our Messiah, He becomes the Lord of our life. We are called to daily take up our cross and follow Him (Matthew 16:24-26). We submit our desires, gifts, talents, time, and money to Him (James 4:7).

Philippians 2:9-11 says: "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Because of His magnificent sacrifice, our life should exalt His name (Matthew 5:16). The living water that is given to us so freely in Christ becomes the well-spring of our life (John 4:13-14). We come to Christ to be filled, to be forgiven; and the void that is filled by Christ in our life overflows so that we desire to proclaim His excellencies (1 Peter 2:9) and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19-20). Jesus becomes such a treasure to us, as He had become to the Samaritan woman, that we can't stop ourselves from telling others about the joy He has bestowed in our life (John 4:28-30). We no longer need the next best thing, because Jesus is the greatest thing that will ever happen to us.

MAUDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Chaires Methodist Church will be having a special Maundy Thursday worship service on March 28th @ 7:00 pm in the historic sanctuary. There will be a special reader's theater that will require volunteers to make it happen. We need 12 volunteers that will read the parts of various apostle's that were in that upper room with Jesus prior to Good Friday. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Kerry Foote to receive a part in the reader's theater.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Chaires Methodist Church will be having "A Service of Tenebrae" for Good Friday on March 29th @ 7:00 pm in the historic sanctuary. A Service of Tenebrae, or "Shadows," is based on a twelfth–century late night service and is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ. It may be used as the evening service on Good Friday, particularly as the beginning of a prayer vigil lasting through Saturday.

HOLY SATURDAY PRAYER VIGIL

Chaires Methodist Church will be hosting a Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil on March 30th from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm in the historic sanctuary. Holy Saturday offers us an invitation to quiet prayer and stillness as we join Mary and Martha as they sit before the tomb and keep watch. This is the last day of Lent, and the church will be open for individuals and families to come by between 6:00 am and 6:00 pm to spend time in prayer and reflection to prepare for Easter.

As we worship in person, all church services will continue to be posted after 1 pm each Sunday through the church website at *chairesmethodist.church*.

Chaires Methodist Logo Sub-Committee Meeting

On March 10, 2024, we will be having a Logo Sub-Committee meeting after the worship service in the Sunday School room. We will be pairing down the choices to present to the church. If you would like to be a part of this committee, just show up on Sunday and we would love to have your input.

Liturgists for Worship

We would like members of the congregation to participate in the worship service by reading the Call to Worship and the scripture readings. If you are interested, a sign-up sheet is on the long back table.

Adult Sunday School

This class will be meeting each Sunday at 9 AM



If you would like to place flowers in the church during, please sign up on the bulletin board opposite the restrooms.

Lenten Devotion Series

Pastor Kerry will be hosting a Lenten Devotional Bible Study every Thursday through March 21st. Those attending can attend either the 8:00 a.m. session or the 6:00 p.m. session. The morning session will be held in the Sunday School room of the multi-purpose sanctuary. The evening session will be held at the parsonage and the study will be preceded by a potluck.

This Lenten series will coincide with our Lenten sermon series titles: "Letting Go!" There will be **no cost** because the handout will be provided for the study. Call the church at (850) 219-9361 and leave a message.

You can also send an e-mail to Pastor Kerry

at: pastor.foote@outlook.com.

March Birthdays
Susan Capelouto 3
Christy Alley 14

March Anniversaries
Rick & Paula Davies 11
Jerry & Janet Cayson 28

Jim Taylor 25

Chaires Staff

Pastor Rev. Kerry Foote Secretary Susan Capelouto

Music Director Custodian Audio/Visual Susan Capelouto (secretarychairesumc@gmail.com) Gerry Nielsen Janet Cayson Marty Holland

Save-the-Date

March 17-Men's Breakfast (4/3) Sign up begins.
March 17 @ District Laity Gathering 7 pm7-8:30 pm at Killearn Methodist Church
March 28-Maundy Thursday Reader's Theater 7 pm
March 29-Good Friday Service 6:30 pm
March 30- Holy Saturday Vigil 6am-6 pm
March 31-Easter Sunrise Service and
Breakfast at Petrandis Farm @7:30-9:00 a.m.
followed by Sunday School and 10 am worship service.

March 31-Sign up for Bible Study begins. April 3-8-9:30 am Men's Breakfast April 25-Bible Study (*The Rock, The Road, and the Rabbi*) begins.



If you would like Pastor Kerry to call or visit, please let Susan, the secretary, or Pastor Kerry know. His contact information is in the bulletin.

Giving Through Our Website

Go to https://ChairesUMC.com and just click the blue GIVE button and you will be taken to the church REALM site. The church secretary can help you set up your account.

Thank you, Thomas Stumbaugh, for the beautiful bench near the All Saints Cross. A quiet spot for quiet thoughts.

The <u>Upper Room</u> for March and April is available on the back shelf in the sanctuary.

Faith Responders Need YOU!

Miccosukee Methodist is planning to help with a step build on March 17th after service with Florida Cares. There are some folks over in Suwannee County and Taylor County that have some trees from Hurricane Idalia that need to be cut up and moved to the street. They are not urgent jobs, but the homeowner is elderly. It might take a 3-5 people and is 1.5 to 2 hours drive one way. Please call me know if you feel you have some folks who might be able and willing to help with this.

Thank you! Laura *Rev. Laura M. Lambert*Executive Director
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