



Relentless grace seeks out thirsty souls so they can encounter Jesus' life-giving water of salvation.

Relentless Grace...

Does Whatever It Takes (1-14)

Because Jesus had a divine appointment with this Samaritan woman he "had to pass through Samaria" with his relentless grace to give her eternal life (4).

In a society where women often came together in groups to get water, the Samaritan woman was an outcast and alone (7; Gen. 24:11; 29:7-8; Ex. 2:16; 1 Sam. 9:11).

The "Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans" because the Jews viewed them as ethnically inferior and religiously heretical (9).

Saving grace is "the gift of God" that leads to the "living water" of salvation (10).

When Jesus tells the woman she will never be thirsty again, he is saying that he can give her purpose, meaning, and fulfillment (14).

Thirst is often used of a spiritual craving which only God can fulfill (Ps. 42:2; 63:1; 143:6; Isa. 55:1; Mtt. 5:6).

There are no accidents in the plans and purposes of Jesus for your life as he often takes the failures and tragedies of your life to bring you to a place where you find soul-satisfying satisfaction in him alone.

Jesus is promising a spiritual "spring of water welling up to eternal life" which will bring life transforming satisfaction and never dry up (14).

This eternal spring of Jesus is unstoppably fulfilling because the joy of Jesus makes your joy full and complete in him (John 15:11).

Relentless Grace...

1) Reaches Out to All People

Jesus broke every societal, religious, and moral rule to reach this woman with the Gospel message as he intentionally went through Samaria, spoke to a woman and asked her for a drink of water.

God's relentless grace transcends gender, class, and religion as he satisfies the thirsty.

Grace shows no partiality or favoritism as to who you are, what you have done, or how you have lived (Acts 10:34; Rms. 2:11; Gal. 2:6; 3:28; Eph. 6:9; Col. 3:11).

2) Reveals Your Need for Grace

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weakness..."-2 Corinthians 12:9

Sharing your struggles and how Jesus helps you through your problems, fears, and challenges opens doors with the most unlikely people.

3) Fulfills Your Hearts' Desires

"For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters and dug out for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water."-Jeremiah 2:13

"Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition, when infinite joy is offered us like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."-C.S. Lewis in *The Weight of Glory*

Relentless Grace...

Reaches People Where They Are (15-18)

"Give me this water" is the heart-cry of a thirsty soul dehydrated from drinking from the empty cisterns of broken relationships (15).

The thirsty will only ask you to "give...this water" if they see you have first drunk from "the spring of water welling up to eternal life" that Jesus gives so that you are "never...thirsty" (15; Jn. 4:14).

The woman does not want to "come here to draw water" because everyday her painful past is thrown into her face by a community that considers her an outcast and beyond hope (15).

Jesus' command to "go, call your husband, and come here" is given to show that she has no husband to protect her and shield her from the pain and embarrassment she feels (16).

"Everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works be exposed."-John 3:20

Jesus points out that "the one you have now is not your" husband to show her that her present pursuit of fulfillment is still empty (16).

In pointing out that she has "had five husbands" Jesus is showing her that her thirsts for love, meaning and fulfillment in past relationships has been unsatisfying (18).

Relentless Grace...

1) Engages the Hurting and Hopeless

"Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest."
-Jesus in John 4:35

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."-1 Peter 3:15

2) Reveals People's Brokenness

The woman at the well is a serial fornicator whose life is riddled by an ongoing pattern of sinful behavior and as such she is a ripe candidate for the grace of God.

Jesus will do whatever it takes to bring people to a place where they are unfulfilled in the false pursuits of life-satisfying water.

Confronting thirsty souls means we with "gentleness and respect" expose the sin people are attempting to hide (1 Pet. 3:15).

3) Offers Jesus' Hope

"Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take water of life without price."-Revelation 22:17

"If anyone thirsts let him come to me and drink..."-Jesus in John 7:37

Challenge— Am I sharing Jesus' relentless grace?

