



Rivers of Living Water

April 26, 2026

John 7:37-39



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Introduction:

What does it mean to “become channels of compassion and hope to a hurting world?”

What it means:

A person, or group of people, who are learning to walk in a YIELDED, ATTENTIVE and RESPONSIVE relationship with the Holy Spirit such that the compassionate, loving power of God and life of Jesus flows through us to others in ways that lead to healing and wholeness.

Rivers of Living Water:

“On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts let him come to Me, and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the scripture has said, Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” Now this he said about the Spirit whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

John 7:37-39

Teaching:

1. Everyone who believes in Jesus receives the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor. 6:19, 12:13, Eph. 1:13, Romans 8:9)

- We know this in our head, but it often stops there.

Scripture speaks of our relationship with the Spirit as just that.... a relationship and one that is marked by:

Staying in step with the Spirit (Gal. 5:25)

Walking by the Spirit (Gal. 5:16)

Living by the Spirit (Romans 8:5)

Being led by the Spirit (Romans 8:14)

Sowing to the Spirit (Gal. 6:8)

Filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18)

and.....

Grieving the Spirit (relational - Eph 4:30), Quenching the Spirit (despising prophecy - 1 Thess. 5:19-20) and resisting the Spirit (Acts 7:51)

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2. The flow of living water GOES OUT of HIM!

- Every believer of Jesus is a priest, minister and ambassador for Jesus (1 Peter 2:9, 1 Cor. 12:4-7) - This is WHO WE ARE.
- Yet, we have turned “church” largely into a spectator sport! Where a few play, while most *watch*. This SHOULDN'T BE SO.
- This isn't to say that there isn't place for leadership, there is.
- However, the Holy Spirit desires to manifest Jesus, and exalt Him, through each and every believer.

Two Things Going for US!

1. We share in Jesus' authority - We are ambassadors and He commissions us with the reminder that He has all authority and will be with us (Mt. 28:18-20)
2. We have received the Holy Spirit and He desires to work through us in a variety of ways (prophecy, healing, prayer) in order to testify to, and exalt Jesus. (1 Cor. 12:4-7)

What does it look like?:

Being a channel of compassion happens as we are YIELDED, ATTENTIVE and RESPONSIVE to the promptings of God's Spirit to the relationships around us.

1. Begins with a settled willingness to obey and yield to however the Holy Spirit leads you to engage and minister.
2. Jesus was often concerned for the lost, hurting and overlooked, so we should be attentive to those people we come across who are often ignored by society.
3. We then are responsive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit as we are praying for how to engage with a particular person or need.

Our Ministry Sphere:

We can grow in becoming a channel of compassion and hope right where you area.

The people in your life, at home, work or somewhere in between can and will experience Jesus through your life, through a relationship with you as you are led by the Spirit.

SEE the overlooked person at the grocery store, nursing home or work environment. Pray for direction on how to relate and engage. Then do it, in faith.

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