

Leaving Waterpots Behind

John 4:16-30



Woman at the Well

➤ Review of events

- *Jesus, on His way to Galilee, stops outside Sychar, having become hungry and thirsty; disciples go on into town seeking food*
- *A woman approaches to draw water; Jesus begins discussion of "living water"; requests she summon her husband*
- *She concludes He is a prophet; He indicates that He is the Messiah*
- *She runs into the town to inform others*



Woman at the Well

➤ Review of events

➤ But why did she leave her waterpot?

- *Probably did not have an abundance of them*
- *Probably didn't forget it*
- *May have been an inexpensive pot*

Because she found something more valuable than water or a waterpot and it had become a hindrance to her new goal; she left it to pursue what was more valuable!



Waterpots We Need to Leave Behind

If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

- Matthew 5:29-30



Waterpots We Need to Leave Behind

➤ Waterpots can be anything

- *Bad or sinful – greed, worldly pleasures, pride*

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

- Colossians 3:5



Waterpots We Need to Leave Behind

- **Waterpots can be anything**
 - *Bad or sinful – greed, worldly pleasures, pride*
 - *Neutral things – sports, television, computer, hobbies, food, music, politics*

Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.
- I Corinthians 8:8



Waterpots We Need to Leave Behind

- **Waterpots can be anything**
 - *Bad or sinful – greed, worldly pleasures, pride*
 - *Neutral things – sports, television, computer, hobbies, food, music, politics*
 - *Good things – maintaining house and yard, work, volunteering, academics*



Waterpots We Need to Leave Behind

- **Waterpots can be anything**
- **We need to avoid letting worldly "things" crowd out spiritual things:**
 - *Academics* ○ *Possessions*
 - *Accomplishments*

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."
- Matthew 22:36-37

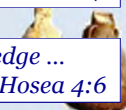


Leave Behind Waterpots for:

- **Personal Bible study**
 - *What do you read just before going to bed?*
 - *Listening to e-books on way to work*

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.
- Romans 10:17

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge ...
- Hosea 4:6



Leave Behind Waterpots for:

- **Personal Bible study**
- **Worship assemblies and Bible classes**
 - *Preparation on Saturday for Sunday*
 - *Do you give any thought at all to worship while traveling?*



Leave Behind Waterpots for:

- **Personal Bible study**
- **Worship assemblies and Bible classes**
- **Evangelism**
 - *Do we engage in worldly social events (e.g. clubs, hobbies) with a view towards finding lost souls?*
 - *Do we prepare ourselves to teach the lost?*
 - ✓ Carry church business cards
 - ✓ Have Bible Correspondence courses available
 - ✓ Study/learn an organized method for presenting the gospel



Leave Behind Waterpots for:

- Personal Bible study
- Worship assemblies and Bible classes
- Evangelism
- Drawing closer to brothers and sisters
 - *Look for times to socialize with brethren*
 - *Learning their problems, difficulties, and needs*



Conclusions

- ☞ It's all about judgment – how is your judgment trained?
- ☞ Do spiritual matters “get the left-overs” in our lives (Matthew 6:33)?
- ☞ How are you running your race (Hebrews 12:1)?