

The Lakeside

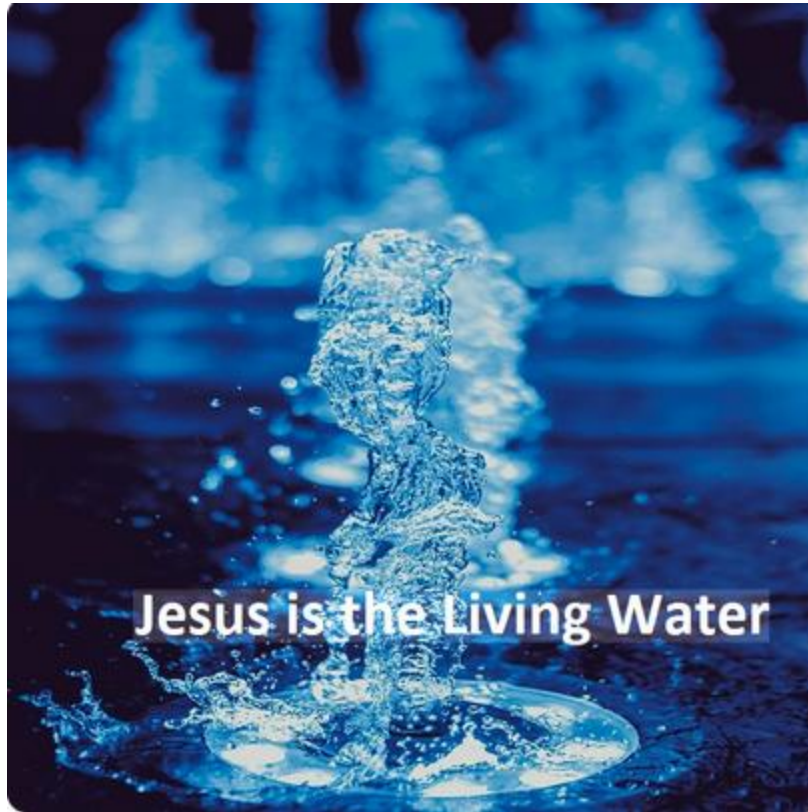


Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday March 2, 2026 - Philippians 2:3

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, [Read 2 Timothy 4 All Versions](#)

Read Philippians 2 for meditation and inspiration.



Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

When a young woman attempted to take her own life, she left a short note explaining why she was doing it. She gave several reasons, but one sentence stands out. She said, "I don't have the strength it takes to go on just existing." Fortunately, she was discovered by one of her friends, rushed to the hospital, and her life was saved. Her life was turned around through sound therapy and a profound spiritual awakening.

When we stop to fully comprehend what that girl was saying -- "I don't have the strength to go on," many of us can understand and identify with her feelings of depression and despair. But somewhere deep within ourselves, we know that life is more than mere existence -- more than mere survival -- more than just making it through the night only to discover then comes another day of merely existing. There must be more to life than this!

The Gospel of John celebrates how God's Presence in Jesus Christ makes it possible for us to move from mere existence to purposeful living and find great meaning for the living of these days and ultimately abundant life promised by Jesus.

Remember the woman at the well. This woman must have been tired of going through life ridiculed by others, treated with disdain by the community, shunned by other women, then Jesus steps into the picture and everything is changed.

He asks her for a drink of water and she is amazed that he would even speak to her, that he would touch anything that she would give him and ask her to “do him a favor” but there he is reaching into her painful existence.

A simple drink of water is how he explains his interest in her and in all others as he says: "Anyone who drinks the water that I shall give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life" (John 4:14).

Hope and Promise all rolled up into one person, God's only son, Jesus the Christ of God.

With the woman let us all drink the water that only He can give for in it there is health, strength, power, faith and hope. His water will quench all our longings and all our needs as in Him we will never be thirsty again.

Praying that you are filled to the brim with Jesus and the water coming from Him.

Truly Yours,



Roger

