

Living Water

NEW TESTAMENT SEMINARY MATERIAL

Read the following scripture passages and statements, looking for insights about the living water that Jesus Christ offers.

- John 4:13–14
- John 7:37–38
- 2 Nephi 9:50–51
- 3 Nephi 20:8–9

Elder David A. Bednar of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles taught:



The living water referred to in [John 4:10] is a representation of the Lord Jesus Christ and His gospel. And as water is necessary to sustain physical life, so the Savior and His doctrines, principles, and ordinances are essential for eternal life. You and I need His living water daily and in ample supply to sustain our ongoing spiritual growth and development.

The scriptures contain the words of Christ and are a reservoir of living water to which we have ready access and from which we can drink deeply and long. You and I must look to and come unto Christ, who is “the fountain of living waters” (1 Nephi 11:25; compare Ether 8:26; 12:28), by reading (see Mosiah 1:5), studying [see Doctrine and Covenants 26:1], searching (see John 5:39; Alma 17:2), and feasting (see 2 Nephi 32:3) upon the words of Christ as contained in the holy scriptures. By so doing, we can receive both spiritual direction and protection during our mortal journey. (David A. Bednar, “A Reservoir of Living Water” [Church Educational System fireside for young adults, Feb. 4, 2007], 1, broadcasts.ChurchofJesusChrist.org)

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin (1917–2008) of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles taught:



Too many sit at the banquet table of the gospel of Jesus Christ and merely nibble at the feast

placed before them. They go through the motions—attending their meetings perhaps, glancing at scriptures, repeating familiar prayers—but their hearts are far away. If they are honest, they would admit to being more interested in the latest neighborhood rumors, stock market trends, and their favorite TV show than they are in the supernal wonders and sweet ministrings of the Holy Spirit.

Do you wish to partake of this living water and experience that divine well springing up within you to everlasting life?

Then be not afraid. Believe with all your hearts. Develop an unshakable faith in the Son of God. Let your hearts reach out in earnest prayer. Fill your minds with knowledge of Him. Forsake your weaknesses. Walk in holiness and harmony with the commandments. (Joseph B. Wirthlin, “The Abundant Life,” *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2006, 100)

Based on what you learned from studying these resources, begin creating an outline for your talk. Be sure that your outline answers the following questions. Also think about how you can communicate your feelings about Jesus Christ in your talk. Consider sharing personal experiences you have had with partaking of the Savior’s living water and how those experiences impacted you.

- What is the living water offered by Jesus Christ?
- Why do we need the Savior’s living water?
- What can we do to receive living water from the Savior?
- How does knowing that the Savior wants everyone to partake of His living water affect how you feel about Him?

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