

THE WORD OF HUMANITY

The Seven Greatest Words of Love, Part 5: John 19:28-29

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“After this, Jesus knew that everything had been completed. So that the Scripture would come true, He said, ‘I am thirsty.’ There was a jar full of vinegar there, so the soldiers soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a branch of a hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ mouth.” John 19:28-29 (NCV)

MEMORY VERSE

**“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.’ ”
John 7:38**

THE THIRST OF JESUS

• IT SHOWED JESUS WAS TRULY HUMAN

“Jesus gave up His place with God and made Himself nothing. He was born to be a man and became a servant. And when He was living as a man, He humbled Himself and was fully obedient to God, even when that caused His death on a cross.”
Philippians 2:7-8 (NCV)

• IT SHOWED HE WAS THE PROMISED SAVIOR

“So that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, ‘I am thirsty.’”
John 19:28 (NIV)

“When I was thirsty they offered me vinegar.”
Psalm 69:21b (TEV)

“Take a branch of the hyssop plant, dip it into the bowl filled with blood, and then wipe the blood on the sides and tops of the doorframes.”
Exodus 12:22 (NCV)

• IT SHOWS HOW MUCH JESUS LOVES ME

“God demonstrated his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
Romans 5:8 (ESV)

THE THIRST OF OTHERS

“The time is coming when I will send famine on the land. People will be hungry, but not for bread; they will be thirsty, but not for water. They will hunger and thirst for a message from the Lord. People will stagger everywhere from sea to sea, searching for the word of the Lord, running here and going there, but they will not find it. Beautiful girls and fine young men will grow faint and weary, thirsting for the Lord's word.”

Amos 8:11-13 (NLT)

1. I SERVE JESUS BY SERVING OTHERS

“Lord, when did we ever see YOU hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink?” ...And He will tell them, ‘I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers you were doing it to me!’” Matthew 25:37-40 (NLT)

2. JESUS NOTICES THE SMALLEST SERVICE

“If you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded.” Matthew 10:42 (NLT)

3. THE MOST CHRISTLIKE SERVICE IS TO ENEMIES

“If your enemies are hungry, give them food to eat. If they are thirsty, give them water to drink.” Proverbs 25:21 (NLT)

HOW DO I GET MY THIRST SATISFIED?

• REALIZE WHAT I’M REALLY THIRSTY FOR

“O God, You are my God, and I long for You. My whole being desires You like a dry, worn-out, and waterless land, my soul is thirsty for You.”
Psalm 63:1 (TEV)

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”
Matthew 5:6 (NIV)

• REALIZE JESUS FEELS MY PAIN

“He took our suffering on Himself and felt our pain for us... He was wounded for the wrong we did and crushed for the evil we did. The punishment, which made us well, was given to Him, and we are healed because of His wounds.” Is. 53:4-5 (NCV)

“Our High Priest understands our weaknesses, for He faced all of the same temptations we do, yet He did not sin.” Heb 4:15

- **STOP LOOKING FOR FULFILLMENT ELSEWHERE**

“My people have done two evils: They have turned away from me, the spring of living water and they have dug their own wells, which are broken wells that cannot hold water.”

Jeremiah 2:13 (NCV)

“On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, ‘If you are thirsty, come to Me! If you believe in Me, come and drink! For the Scriptures declare that rivers of living water will flow out from within.’”

John 7:37-38 (NLT)

“Jesus said, ‘People soon become thirsty again after drinking this water. But the water I give them takes away thirst altogether. It becomes a perpetual spring within them, giving them eternal life.’”

John 4:13-14 (NLT)

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

God, in gratitude for the sacrifice You made for me, I want to spend the rest of my life serving You. I desire to serve You by serving others, even if that means giving a cup of cold water to a child, or changing a diaper, or helping an elderly person across the street. Thank you that You notice the smallest service. I want to do everything I do in Your name.

Lord, Your Word says in Romans 12:20, if my enemies are hungry, I am to give them food, and if they are thirsty, I am to give them water. Lord, I really don't want to do that because they are people who have hurt me and, therefore, people I don't like. But You died for them just like You died for me, so I pray that nothing in my life would keep them from knowing You. Just as in the story shared during today's message about the man who took the elderly gentleman to the bathroom, and that one act of kindness caused people to come to know Your love, so, too, I want my life everyday to make people thirsty for You. I ask You to use me for Your sake and Your name this next week to meet the thirsty needs of the people around me. I want to do what I do out of gratitude to You, and I pray this in Your name, Jesus, Amen.