

## LOVED: Though Unlovable

John 4:7-30

*Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." -John 4:13-14 NIV*

When practicing social distancing, it is not unusual to try and go somewhere at the least busy times. Grocery stores, parks, and other public places are seeing an increase of people during times that they usually aren't that busy. Some stores are even enforcing times that will be less busy for people who need it.

The Bible tells a story in John about a woman who practiced social distancing. This wasn't, however, because she didn't want to get sick, she believed that she was unlovable. She had some things in her past that caused other people to look down upon her and made her feel sad, so she avoided other people. She didn't go to the well to draw water in the morning with the other women of the town. Instead, she went at the hottest part of the day, when no one else would be around.

Thankfully, one day, someone else was there. Jesus was there and told her about living water. Living water? That phrase is strange to us and to the woman at the well that day. Jesus promised living water that comes from the knowledge of God and faith in Christ. Just as we need water to survive, we need living water from Jesus because through it we gain eternal life.

In our lives, sometimes we feel like we don't deserve love. There may be something that we have done that makes us want to go into our rooms and hide rather than face what we have done. We want to avoid people who remind us of what we did, just like the woman did.

However, God is love. It is impossible to do something that would change the fact that God loves us. In Romans 5:8, it says that "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Christ is the ultimate example of God's amazing love for us, and even more amazing is that he died while we were still sinners! We didn't have to prove anything or make up for our sins before God would act. He knows that we can't live perfectly but loves us so much that he sent Jesus to make up for what we can't ever do.

Let's pray:

Lord, when we feel unlovable, help us to remember that we are loved by you. Help us to remember the ultimate action of your love through Jesus' death so that we could have living water. Amen.

