



## Let the Thirsty Come

*And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. ~ Revelation 22:17*

### Discover the Context Revelation 22

 "Men who have spiritual thirst will not be satisfied with honors, with pleasures, or with gifts; they will not be satisfied with anything but the Lord Jesus Christ Himself."  
~ William Greenhill  
(1591-1671)

 Are you prepared to lead the spiritually thirsty to the living water—to Jesus Christ? Are you asking God to show which campers or staff members are still thirsting for God? How can you be more faithful to replenish the springs of living water in your heart through daily time with God in His Word and in prayer? Remember today's text stresses that anyone who desires can receive this water. Are you guilty of withholding the gospel from campers you don't think want salvation or won't "fit" the Christian life? The gospel is for anyone who is thirsty.

The sun beat down on our hot and weary heads as we bushwhacked our way through the dense undergrowth in the northern woods of Wisconsin. Throughout the trip we went through the daily ritual of finding water, boiling it of its impurities, sometimes screening out floating bits of forest life, and usually flavoring it with some kind of powdered drink mix to make it more palatable. We were several days into a wilderness trip, and now at about midday we were in search of water where we thought we should be able to find it. One does not truly appreciate water until you are without it.

What a contrast to the cool, pure, refreshing water of life that the Lord Jesus offers to those who are spiritually thirsty. Always available and always abundant, His water is free to all who are parched from the weariness of sin. Unlike the water that we sought in the woods, which we had to search for and labor over to prepare, His water is received simply by asking and is available at no cost to you. It has already been paid for by His death on the cross. Sin parches; Christ quenches.

This summer you are surrounded by thirsty kids (both physically and spiritually) and perhaps a few staff members. It is your holy privilege and responsibility to lead them to the spiritual fountain from which they may drink—the Lord Jesus Christ. Even "religious" campers may be thirsty. They may go through the motions of Christianity (church attendance, Bible study, prayer), but if their hearts have not been regenerated then they are thirsty. Religion doesn't satisfy; Jesus Christ does.

The most basic element of the human body is water. An individual can live only a few short days without it. But without the spiritual water which Christ offers, the soul cannot live for even a moment. And Jesus delights for us to be satisfied in His forgiveness and comfort. Drink deeply. [SHG]