



**WHEN
DIFFERENT
IS BETTER**

Part 3: A Different Inner Motivation

Guest Speaker: Andrew Williams

APPETIZER

1. Born to Transform

- Our job description: Perfecting and managing the creative order

Genesis 1:26-28; John 4:10, 13-14

DINE IN

2. Trapped in Circumstance

John 4:15-23, 27; Ephesians 1:3-6

- We, like the Samaritan woman:
 - Easily become addicted to seeking short term satisfaction from our circumstances.
 - Are distracted by cultural, philosophical, and religious arguments.
 - Let other people define, confine us, and chase us off.

3. Living it out

- Accept the truth about you
- Accept the truth about Christ
- Drop everything and take action
- Lean into your weakness
- Be appreciative, as God is appreciative

John 4:23-26; Ephesians 1:10-12

4. The New Life

- Renewed relationships: God, you and your world

John 4:39-42

TAKE OUT

- Where is God calling you next to make a difference in the world around you?
- What areas of weakness does God need to backfill so you can take that step?



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Home Church Notes

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic / Starting Conversations]

1. What is one thing that struck you in this week's teaching?
2. Does life feel more like you're 'making a difference' or 'treading water'? What do you think are the key differences between these two ways of experiencing life?

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture]

3. Read **John 4:1-42**.
 - a. In verses 13-14, what strikes you most about the images Jesus uses when talking to the woman?
 - b. In verses 17-18, why was it so important to Jesus to point out her series of broken relationships? Do you think he was judging her? Why or why not?
 - c. In verses 23-24, what do you think it means to "worship God in Spirit and in truth?" How can the worship of God help people engage their spirit in the pursuit of truth and trust spiritual connection with God? How does that differ from the woman's religious arguments in verses 19-20? Which do you find you tend to do most? Why?
 - d. What personal hurdles do you think the woman had to overcome to call the people to come meet Jesus? What do you think is the significance of her forgetting her water pot (verses 28-30)?
 - e. What do we know about the trajectory of the woman's spiritual journey at the end of the story? What does that say about Jesus' approach?

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together]

4. What are your 'husbands' – things you continually hope will provide the satisfaction only God can provide? What would it look like for you to transfer that expectation to God?
5. Where are areas of weakness that God might be calling you to lean into to experience his grace and power to change? What practical step can you do this week to start that process?
6. What opportunities has God presented for you to start/continue transforming the world around you? What is your next step to seize one or more of these opportunities?
7. What can this group do to support you in taking the above steps?
8. Pray for each other and for God to expand your impact and your world this week.

Quotes

To be human, therefore, is to have the privilege of being a co-creator with God.
– Todd Bouldin

God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature, so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, and, yes, Earth itself...Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge!" - Genesis 1:26-28

"The fact that you are still alive assures you that God has something for you to accomplish."

– Rodney A. Winters

"Something awful has happened; something terrible. Something worse, even, than the fall of man. For in that greatest of all tragedies, we merely lost Paradise—and with it, everything that made life worth living. What has happened since is unthinkable: we've gotten used to it. We're broken in to the idea that this is just the way things are.

– John Eldredge

"It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

– C.S. Lewis

"I began to notice on the very block where our church held services, there were folks who had given up—drug addicts and alcoholics alongside people who were cursing and treating kids as if they were less than human. I said to myself, "I thought Christianity taught us to go outside and be with the most disadvantaged?"...It made me lose confidence in my own faith, and it took me some number of years before I began to understand this had nothing to do with the teachings of Christianity—it had to do with individual churches. Some accept this mission and some don't."

– Geoffrey Canada, Founder, The Harlem Children's Zone

God is looking for people to use, and if you can get usable, he will wear you out. The most dangerous prayer you can pray is this: 'Use me.'

– Rick Warren