

SERMON GUIDE

THE GIFT OF THE SPIRIT

John 7:37-44

Pastor | Tim Porter

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Faith Community Church | fcchudson.com

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- S**cripture that stands out to you while you read
- O**bservations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you
- A**pplication that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- P**rayers that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Getting to Know Me: What is the first thing that pops into your mind when you hear the word "refreshing"?

Note About the Passage: The Jewish "Feast of Booths" is one of the three festivals mentioned in the books of Moses. The festival commemorates the 40 years that Israel spent wandering in the wilderness after leaving Egypt. During this time, Israel lived in temporary shelters, or booths. Jews would remember that period in history by eating, sleeping and spending time in temporary shelters around Jerusalem. One of the most distinctive features of the celebration was that a priest would draw water from the Pool of Siloam in a golden pitcher and carry it to the Temple every morning, where it was poured out on the altar along with wine. This ceremony was accompanied by great joy, music, and dancing.

Read John 7:37-44

- S** What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** Reflect: Why do you think Jesus describes the experience of life without the Spirit as "thirst" (v.37)? Why is life in the Spirit described as having "rivers of living water" flowing from your heart (v.38)?
 - Is this easy or hard for you to believe? Why?
- O** How do we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (v.38)?
 - Why do you think this created so much controversy (v.40-44)?
 - Why does it create controversy today?
- A** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A** At FCC we talk a lot about "unbelief." It is easy to understand the basic message of our reading. It is much harder to trust what Jesus says and walk in it in our daily lives.
 - Do you struggle at all to believe what Jesus says in these verses in your daily life? Why?
 - What would faith look like for you this week?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.