

MIDWEEK 5: STUDENT THE SUFFERING WORD

John 19:28

“I thirst.”

INTRODUCTION

“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” (*LSB* 447:13–15):

Jesus, in Your thirst and pain,
While Your wounds Your lifeblood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

Thirst for us in mercy still;
All Your holy work fulfill;
Satisfy Your loving will:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

May we thirst Your love to know.
Lead us in our sin and woe
Where the healing waters flow:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

THE WORD

Read John 4:6–26 and answer the following:

1. Why did Jesus sit beside the well and what does that show?
2. What does Jesus ask of the woman?
3. How does she respond?
4. How does Jesus lead her to Himself?
5. Why does His response puzzle her? What does she think He means?
6. What does Jesus promise about the water He gives?
7. When the woman asks for the water, does she understand yet?
8. How does Jesus lead her to see her true thirst?
9. Why does she want to change the subject?
10. How does He reveal Himself to her at last?

Read John 19:28–29 and answer the following:

1. When our Lord cried out “I thirst” what did He already know?
2. What Scripture was He fulfilling?
3. How did the bystanders assuage His thirst?
4. What does hyssop call to mind?
5. Have you ever been really thirsty? Try to describe what this is like.
6. What does God thirst for?

CONCLUSION

Thirst is a common human experience. Even more than hunger for food, thirst for water or other liquid is a basic for sustaining our earthly life. But in the Scriptures, thirst is also used as a metaphor for our need for God—we cannot live without Him any more than we can live without liquids. “My soul thirsts for God, for the living God” the Psalmist cries out (Psalm 42:2). Only He can quench the thirst of our spirits with His living water—that is, with His Spirit—and it was to provide us this living water that Christ Himself thirsts upon the cross for our salvation.