



How to grow deeper in our Spiritual life

Ezekiel 47:1-5 - Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar.

He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side.

And when the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the water came up to my ankles.

Again he measured one thousand and brought me through the waters; the water came up to my knees. Again he measured one thousand and brought me through; the water came up to my waist.

Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep, water in which one must swim, a river that could not be crossed.

Ezekiel 36:24-27 - For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.

Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

- ▶ Ezekiel saw that the glory of God left the temple of god.
- ▶ This was because of the people's sin.
- ▶ The consequences of their sin was that they missed the glory of God.

Ezekiel's Vision

- ▶ The river came from the temple of God under the threshold and flowed to the dead sea. This was the lowest point in the earth.
- ▶ The river from the Temple of God (God's presence) reached the dead sea and brought life.
- ▶ The river came from the south side of the altar and got deeper as it went.

How does Ezekiel's vision show the
depth of our relationship with
God?

Imagine that swimming in this deep river is a picture of a deep life with God, because the river started from the presence of God
(Temple)

Psalm 16:8 - I have set the Lord always
before me; Because He is at my right
hand I shall not be moved.

2 Kings 5:16 - But he said, "As the Lord
lives, before whom I stand..."

Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is
the beginning of wisdom;

**Do we have access to God's
divine presence?**

Hebrews 10:19-22 Therefore, brethren,
having boldness to enter the Holiest
by **the blood of Jesus**,
by a new and living way which He
consecrated for us, through the veil,
that is, His flesh,

and having a **High Priest** over the
house of God,

let us draw near with a true heart in
full assurance of faith, having our
hearts sprinkled from an evil
conscience and our bodies washed
with pure water.

- ▶ **The great priest** is the Lord Jesus Christ
- ▶ **The sacrifice** is Jesus who died and shed his blood for us.
- ▶ **Our hearts** are sprinkled and made clean by the blood of Jesus from any sins.

1- The presence of God is the beginning of entering into the deep.

- ▶ We must train ourselves to be continuously in the presence of God

2- Ezekiel's river went to the south under the altar. The altar represent the cross.

- ▶ We cannot understand the value of the cross until we understand the splendor of the one who was crucified.
- ▶ We need a deep relationship with God to truly understand.

- ▶ Hebrews was written to the Jews who believed in Christ.
- ▶ The cross was a picture of shame and created a stumbling block for them.
- ▶ Six verses in Hebrews address the fact that they left their faith and those who didn't leave were still like children in their faith.
(See Hebrews 5)

Hebrews 5:12 - For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

Hebrews 6:1-3 - Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the **foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,**

**of the doctrine of baptisms, of
laying on of hands, of resurrection
of the dead, and of eternal
judgment.**

And this we will do if God permits.

- ▶ The river in Ezekiel came out from the south of the altar.
- ▶ One of the obstacles to entering the deep is the lack of deep understanding of the cross of Christ.
- ▶ That is, God's redemptive work through Jesus Christ.

3-Entering into the deep is not about what you do, but about the One who lives in you.

▶ **He** measured one thousand until the water was over his head.

▶ **intervene** ليه مش بحس بتدخلاته؟

▶ He interferences, but your response to his interventions will be stupid

Romans 2:4-5 - Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

But because of your **stubbornness**
and your **unrepentant heart**, you
are storing up wrath against
yourself for the day of God's
wrath, when his righteous
judgment will be revealed.

One of the most amazing things that God uses to prepare us and to take us deeper is **failure and pain.**

Example: Peter

- ▶ Failed in his work and did not listen to the Lord
- ▶ Failed to manage his spiritual life
- ▶ Failed in his love to Jesus (denied him 3 times)

Example: Jacob

▶ Spent his whole life in pain.

→ It would be a tragedy for us to spend our whole lives focused on our pain.

Genesis 47:9 - And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty. My years have been few and Evil, and they do not equal the years of the pilgrimage of my fathers."

Jacob lived by logic and
failed to walk humbly with the
Lord.

1 Peter 5:6 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

- ▶ **We are to live under God's Hand.**
He will press us.

Example: Joseph

- ▶ Was sent by his father to feed his brothers.
- ▶ Walked through pain (Failure) for 13 years.
- Then he fed the whole world!

- ▶ Pain is not a calamity
- ▶ Depth comes from our learning to deal with pain and failures with hope.

- ▶ Disaster creates patience.
- ▶ Patience motivates us.
- ▶ Pain changes us.

4- You will not be able to go deeper without reading and studying the bible.

▶ You must test all ideas according to God's Word.

5- Ask Questions while you are reading the bible.

- ▶ If you do not ask, you will not grow.
- ▶ Jesus asked 200 questions in the four Gospels.
- ▶ From these 200 Questions, 80 of these questions were in response to someone Else's question. (Jesus answered questions with questions)

Remember 3 things:

1. Do not base your relationship with God on the answers to your questions.

▶ Growth and depth comes through relationship, not answers.

Remember 3 things:

2. There are limitations of understanding the questions asked.

- ▶ Many think that if they don't understand, that no one will understand. This is wrong.
- ▶ Even if this were true, God knows what we don't.

Remember 3 things:

3. There is a limitation of the mind.

- ▶ Sometimes we have a block that causes our mind not to understand.
- ▶ We can't understand why the Cross was necessary and other things.
- ▶ “Why did you forsake me?” – Jesus.

How do you live in the deep when everyone around you is superficial?

1. Beware of Elijah's mistake, who thought that he was alone until the Lord told him that there were still 7,000 prophets remaining.

How do you live in the deep when everyone around you is superficial?

2. Speak what you believe and believe what you speak.

How do you live in the deep when everyone around you is superficial?

3. Do not clash with superficiality but create a depth within it.

→ This was Jesus' mentality.

How do you live in the deep when everyone around you is superficial?

4. In your dealings with people, look for purity of heart, not the depth of the mind.