



Discussion Guide
Red Letter Challenge — Part 2
PARTICIPANT GUIDE

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**“How crushing must it be for the shepherd to pour living water,
only to then just watch the sheep sip?”**
[Corky Calhoun]

ENGAGE & CONNECT

When you have unexpected extra time (i.e. an appointment was canceled, get off work early), how do you like to spend that time? What does that do for you?

***OPTIONAL* DEVOTIONAL RECAP**

What is one thing that God taught you, convicted you of, or invited you to begin doing as you read the devotional book last week?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

“Seek the Lord while he may be found; call to him while he is near.”
[Isaiah 55:6]

BIG IDEA

Our doing flows out of WHO we are becoming AS we spend time with Jesus. Being with Jesus does something profound to us!

PASSAGE & DISCUSSION

John 7:37-39

1. Jesus said to those listening, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.” What are some ways you might be “spiritually thirsty”, but haven’t really recognized it until now?
2. What might it look like in your daily life to come to Jesus and “drink”?
3. In the sermon we heard, **“There is a pace of receiving the grace of His presence.”** As you honestly reflect on the pace of your life, what could you change so that there is more time and space to receive the grace of God’s presence? Let’s encourage and hold one another accountable to this!
4. How does the metaphor of “living water” connect to your own spiritual need today?
5. In the sermon we heard, **“Jesus’ presence transforms us from thirsty to overflowing.”** What does it mean for living water to flow from within us, shaping the way we interact with others? Be specific about people in your life!

6. Think about a particular challenge or spiritual dryness in your life. How can the promise of the Holy Spirit change your perspective as you face that?
7. In what ways do you sometimes limit the Holy Spirit's flow in your life? How can you overcome this?
8. How does the indwelling of the Holy Spirit challenge the way you view your identity?
9. How does understanding the Holy Spirit as "rivers of living water" affect the way we should pray for others, especially those who don't know Christ?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE

Here are two truths about being with Jesus: 1) Immediate and urgent concerns will make God seem small and distant to us. 2) Busyness and hurry will make God seem inaccessible to us. The good news, however, is that Jesus invites you to start where you are, not where you are not! Based on the Holy Spirit's wisdom, what is a step of obedience that you can take?

Below are some best practices to consider for your own life. **Remember, we must be decisive about spending time with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!**

- Have a "secret" place and a best time to be with Jesus!
- The slow reading of Scripture and prayer as presence = *Someone you are WITH*
- Explore and practice other habits that suit your unique personality!
- Do not make the goal information, "ah-ha's", or special experiences!
- Have a throughout the day "check-in" with God!
- Put healthy guardrails around technology!

PRAYER FOCUS

Being With Jesus

- Let's take a moment to think about how Jesus welcomes us each day into His presence, offering rest for our souls and strength for our spirits. When we draw near to Him, His love reshapes our hearts, His peace calms our worries, and His wisdom directs our steps.
- Let's pray together that we will not only hear God's invitation but respond with joy, allowing His presence to renew and change us in deep and lasting ways!

MEMORY VERSE

*"Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain fell, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and pounded that house. Yet it didn't collapse, because its foundation was on the rock."
(Matthew 7:24-25)*

RLC RESOURCES

- **Rock Bridge RLC Website** → rockbridge.cc/red
 - This contains an overview video and links to a 40 day Bible reading plan, which complement and enhance the Red Letter Challenge series.