

## Episode 4 (Exposé 12): The Thirst of Humanity

Comment [JO1]: Suggested title

**Anchor Lady:** Hello everyone. This is a beautiful Saturday evening here and I hope you had a wonderful personal time, family time or working time today. This is Exposé, if you are just joining us where we beam the light on Christ. For the past few weeks we have been looking at the Prodigal Father and with me today is...

**Peter:** My name is Peter Adewole, welcome to Exposé.

**Anchor Lady:** Thank you, Peter. While I'm moderating and asking the questions, I will like Peter to summarise what this Prodigal Father series is...for those who have missed out and is wondering what are we doing...

**Peter:** Yeah I mean on Exposé, erm...for the past weeks if you are joining us for the very first time today and if you've been with us for quite some time. Erm, what we've been talking about is looking at the heart of the Father and looking at how Jesus begins to show us the true descriptions...the two types of ways that people choose to live their lives or as you may say the two types of humanities that we have on the planet and Jesus shows us this radically using the story of...which has been called the story of the prodigal son but we just like the title, The Prodigal Father and you will understand why as we go on...on this journey.

**Anchor Lady:** Okay erm will you...how long do we have to be on this topic...

**Peter:** Well, as the Lord will help us...because we need to see what the Holy Spirit wants us to see on this story and let me just say this, we're not just theoretically investigating. We're not just trying to look into the story just because we want to fill our brains and think that we have so much knowledge and information, that's not the goal. The reason for this discourse on the Prodigal Father is because we wanna see, we wanna know, we wanna understand the type of ways people choose to live life and make meaning out of life and to take on the warning of Jesus so that we can fulfil our destiny and become what God wants us to be. So that's the reason, so our focus is...by the time you join us on this journey, you will take something away that will make a big difference in your life.

**Anchor Lady:** For the past two weeks, I think we are on the younger brother?

**Peter:** Yes

**Anchor Lady:** Are we done yet?

**Peter:** Well, we're not really done.

**Anchor Lady:** I mean on the younger brother...

**Peter:** We're not really done with the younger brother. I mean the few who were with us last Saturday, we talked about the fact that erm, erm how far he's gone and erm, and how far he began to eat with the pigs in the pen and all that. So, erm, today we have a different focus on...on the younger brother.

**Anchor Lady:** Oh...

**Peter:** Yeah, I mean, erm if you...I mean just for those who are joining us today...will look at the book of Luke...erm...erm...chapter erm...15...ah...specifically we did...erm...stop...erm around verse 16. That's where we stopped, verse 16. And erm...but today we will be looking at something. We'll be talking about what was the reason? What is the motivation, why would someone decide to live life as a younger brother? Why would he want his father dead? Because we did state the fact that if he wanted his inheritance when his father was alive, to him, it's as good as the father being dead. But why would he...what was the push...why would humanity want to be this kind of person? That's what we'll be looking at today.

**Anchor Lady:** Okay.

**Peter:** Yeah, that's it. And...there's one thing I would want us to look at...er which is very important. You know...Jesus, in the Book of John chapter 4, I want you to have a look at this...John chapter 4...don't forget, the younger brother depicts self-expression! He depicts self-discovery...

**Anchor Lady:** ...self-realisation

**Peter:** ...self-realisation. It means I want to find what works for me...what you call 'individualism' in the western culture. You know, every culture has something that makes them tick; in the western culture, they think you are very significant, you're very important if you can find a course for your own life. If you can chart a course for your life, you can become a non-conformist, an individual. That's the point! What drives people to such a mentality about life, that's what we're looking at. Now, John chapter 4, that's something we want to have a look at and see...this is an encounter that Jesus had with the woman by the well. Er...this is a very popular story...but I wouldn't call this a story...this was an actual event that actually took place.

Now, I want you to look at John chapter 4 erm...erm...from verse 7. "There comes a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said, give me to drink and the woman said...then said the woman of Samaria, how is that you being a Jew ask to drink of me which I'm a woman of Samaria for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans and the wom...Jesus answered and said if you know the gift of God who it is that says to you, give me to drink, you would have asked me and I would have given you living waters". And then...look at verse 13 and...and Jesus said unto the woman, if anybody drinks of this water, he shall thirst again but whosoever drinks of the water I shall give him shall never thirst. But the water that I give him shall be in him a well of water springing up to life eternal. If you look at that...now if you go right on to verse 16, Jesus said to the woman, go and call your husband. Jesus was engaging this woman in something very strange. Jesus said to the woman, go and give me to drink because she came to draw water. She wanted a satisfaction, she wanted to fill a thirst so she came to the well to draw water to fill her thirst. And Jesus told this woman, if you know who I am you would have asked me to give you living waters. Now, the woman thought this was a discourse about H<sub>2</sub>O; about water. But, Jesus says something much more deeper than that...how did I know that? Because Jesus

then tell the woman, go and call your husband and what does she say? She answered Jesus in verse 17, the woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said, well you're right for saying you have no husband for you have had 5 husbands and the one that you have...the one that you have now is not even your husband...in that, you've actually spoken the truth. The woman said unto him, I perceive you are a prophet.

Now, what's the next thing Jesus said? In verse 20, the woman said, our fathers worship in this mountain and you say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. Jesus said unto her, woman, believe in me, the hour comes and now is...that no one will worship in this mountain or that mountain but they will worship what...the father. What are we talking about? In simple terms, Jesus begins to tell us that in every human, in every person, there's a thirst. There is this void...there is this thing that needs to be filled...and people will always need to fill this void trying to make a meaning out of life. So there was nothing wrong with the younger brother...he wanted to fill a void. He wanted to make meaning out of his life. That's why he said well give what you have to give to me now, my father. Why? Because I need to express, I need to go out and find out what works for me. So, it wasn't the desire that the younger brother has that was the problem, it was the way he was going to satisfy that desire. So that's why Jesus told the woman by the well, Jesus said, give me to drink...I know you have a thirst, I know you have something deep down that needs to be filled and...so there's nothing wrong with having that desire...in fact, it's that desire that drives us to pursue the right path of destiny. Now, there's something I want to tell you...there's something I want to read out for our viewers who are looking. Please I want to read out something to you.

Now, there's someone, his name is David Wales. David Wales is a very popular novelist in America. He's dead now and he's well known, he was a professor of English in California. Now listen to what he said...I want you to listen to this, he says because here's something else that is weird but true "in the day-to-day **trenches** of adult life there's actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping, everybody worships". Now, he says everybody has to look for that thing to satisfy that desire. So what we are simply saying in Exposé today is, the desire of the younger brother to find satisfaction or meaning out of life was legitimate!

**Anchor Lady:** Hmmm

**Peter:** That's the point! It's legitimate for someone to say why...what is the point of my life, I need this...my life should count! My life has meaning; my life cannot just be...just anyhow there could be a reason why I am here. I need to find what works for me...Jesus...Jesus is saying to us through that parable there's that desire in that young man. And Jesus said in John chapter 4 to this woman, I know you've got a thirst. I know you need to drink water and you see, for this woman in John chapter 4, we know the way she actually had to go out to fill that desire. She was having lots and lots of husbands but she's already had 5 legitimate husbands and number 6 was illegitimate. So, everyone always has that propensity to fill that desire. So...I'm still on David Wales's quote...he said what...the next thing he said "is there is no such

thing as not worshipping", there's no such thing as that. He said, everybody worships, the only choice we get is what to worship. How do we satisfy that desire? That's the only choice we have...so please, the problem with the younger brother is not just the fact he had that desire, the reason why he has been put in negative light through history...the younger brother was because of the way he chose to fulfil that desire. So there was nothing wrong with the desire of the younger brother, there was nothing wrong with the hunger that he had, nothing wrong with the thirst that he had...everything was wrong with how the younger brother chose to satisfy that desire in the story of the prodigal son.

So...that's it...now, I'm on David Wales said and the ... that he said, "the only choice we get is what to worship". That's the only choice we have so if anybody tells you, 'I don't worship anything', 'I don't look to anything for satisfaction', tell him, he's one big joker. If it's not true, Jesus wouldn't tell the woman...because the woman was thirsty. Jesus knew it was legitimate...he had a thirst and he said, "the compelling reason (*I'm still back to the quote of David Wales*) for maybe choosing some sort of god or spiritual type of thing to worship; be it Jesus Christ or Allah or being Yahweh or the mother goddess or foundable truth or some sort ethical principles is that pretty much...pretty much anything else you worship will eat you alive". Anything else you worship will eat you alive...now if you were with us last week Saturday, you saw what happened to the young man, what was he worshipping? He was saying, you know what, I'm going to take this money, I'm gonna take my inheritance and make sure that I fulfil my desires. After some time, what happened? He began to be in want, he says, whatever pathway you follow to satisfy your desire for meaning in life, that pathway will consume you. So it means you've got to choose which pathway you want to what...follow to satisfy that desire.

**Anchor Lady:** Yeah, I was actually waiting for...while you went on the Samaritan or the Samaria or the woman of Samaria, I want to see the correlation with the...

**Peter:** Yeah, the correlation we actually did there...with the younger brother was...the story of the Samaritan woman if you notice, Jesus never did condemn the fact that she was thirsty

**Anchor Lady:** Hmmmm

**Peter:** Jesus recognised that she was in thirst...she had a thirstiness, she wanted something satisfied deep within her soul and Jesus never did talk about why are thirsty. All Jesus said was, if you know who was talking to you, you would ask me and I will give you living waters. So, the problem is...when people have this desire and this pursuit for meaning in life, they look for any other source to satisfy. Jesus told the woman if you ask me, I will give you rivers of living waters. So, the younger brother had a legitimate desire for meaning in life. He had a legitimate void in him but, he chose to fulfil that desire, he chose to satisfy that void by a whole different way that you call 'individualism' which is what is in vogue in our current culture.

**Anchor Lady:** Okay, so I'm actually waiting to get to the older brother to see... for you to identify that need. Does he have that same need that the younger brother has? Maybe it's not for now...I don't know...

**Peter:** Yeah...yeah well...

**Anchor Lady:** Because if you say he's not peculiar, he's what everybody has...the need, the desire, the thirst...

**Peter:** It is...

**Anchor Lady:** So the elder brother too, everybody has...

**Peter:** It is the general thing about the humanity, that's why if there was something wrong with having that thirst and desire in this John chapter 4, Jesus would have told that woman...because it seems like Jesus was you know er...in psychiatry, I mean I'm not a doctor but, I think people in psychiatry tell us that erm...one way to help psychiatric...I mean erm, people with mental issues is if they are looking for...if they are hallucinating or they are seeing something...erm you don't want to encourage them in their hallucinations. If you do, it will be hard to help them out of their hallucinations. If they are seeing something and you say well...you don't encourage them in their hallucination. You tend to pull them out of it.

If this woman was in actual thirst and Jesus was telling this woman that ask me and I will give what...living waters, then it means it was wrong for this woman to be thirsty...Jesus wouldn't go on to talk about fulfilling the what...the thirst. He would have said, well you're wrong for being thirsty...why would you have a thirst in your life. Jesus would have condemned it.

**Anchor Lady:** So people should not deny and condemn people for their thirst...

**Peter:** No...Jesus' discourse with the woman of Samaria is a constant remainder to humanity that we've got a thirst that needs to be satiated! That's just the fact. Jesus didn't need to talk her out of the thirst, Jesus didn't have to convince the woman...why are you thirsty? What's your problem, why do you have to **be desired**

**Anchor Lady:** So how did he get it wrong...the younger brother?

**Peter:** Well the...well if you say the younger brother got it wrong then...like I said to you...

**Anchor Lady:** Why he became a famous...in history

**Peter:** Well, the fact is the younger brother believes that whatever thirst he has, whatever desire he had, the Father couldn't fulfil it, that's why he wished the Father dead. He wished...the younger brother thought there was no way...the Father wasn't enough to satisfy whatever he wants. That's why he said, *you know what, get out, my father*, I mean...*I just wish you dead*. And then, you see, if you are looking at us today and you believe legitimately that you don't have such a situation. You think well, you know what, *there's nothing I look to for*

*meaning...I just live my life every day. I mean, I'm not that kind of religious person...I'm not that kind of person who argues about God...not God. I'm just a normal person, I'm not concerned with things like this.* Let me tell you something, erm if you want to know if someone is intoxicated by anything, one thing they try to do to check...for example, if I meet two people and they both took ten bottles of beer or alcohol. It's hard to tell to which of them is actually er...a drunkard by just seeing how many bottles they have taken. It's very hard to tell. One easy way to tell who a drunkard is...is take away the bottle for a long time, prevent them from taking the alcohol for a long time and look at the person that goes crazy. Look at the person who struggles to survive...look at the person who begins to shake...look at the person who develops a problem just because you've taken away the alcohol. That's the drunkard, that's the person who's intoxicated with it. Now, it's the same way, you look at your life. Look at things around your life. Look at money, look at family, look at education, look at the things around you. Is there something that if it is taken away from you, you will not just become sad but life becomes impossible to live. That's the very thing that you hang the meaning and definition of your life on.

Look at this woman, Jesus...and it's different from person to person...you know the discourse of the John chapter 4 woman started with the issue of water and well and drinking. But, you see, it moved on from there to husbands. So Jesus said, you know what woman, you have a legitimate thirst but here is the problem with the woman of John chapter 4, you are going about trying to fulfil the thirst using men. For the younger brother, he also had a legitimate thirst but he was gonna go about to fulfil the thirst on the platform of individualism. Everybody chooses one thing or the other to cover up that thirst and that's the reason why the younger brother chose the pathway he chose. You have to just look for something to cover up that need...that thirst and that's it.

**Anchor Lady:** So in conclusion, if there is anything you want people to take out of this today, what would that be?

**Peter:** Well, the conclusion...I mean, that we want you to take out of this discourse today, is to understand the fact that just as we have in Luke 15, the parable of the prodigal son or prodigal father, in John chapter 4 as we have seen in the parable of the Samaritan woman...one thing stands out, there is a legitimate thirst in humans to make a meaning out of life. A thirst that says, you know what, I think I've got to erm...we'll always look for something to defines us...we always look for something, there's that need in us and that need is legitimate. It's a correct need, there's nothing wrong with that need, don't let anybody tell you *why do you have such a kind of erm...drive*, it's legitimate. But the problem is, how do we go about satisfying the need and that is where **xxx problems** and Jesus said to that woman in John chapter 4, I'm able to fill that need. So, that's what we want you take out today, it's legitimate, it's an accurate need, it's expected, it's human to have that need.

**Anchor Lady:** So there's a way to go about it...

**Peter:** That's...going about satisfying the need is what defines who the younger brother was...that's where the whole problem started from.

**Anchor Lady:** So, viewers, if this Exposé and this series bless you in any way, we will like you to share it with others...so we await your comments, questions and so we can elongate this discussion, we can talk through the chat. So, thank you today...so we hope to see you same time next week. We want to say bye...

**Peter:** Okay, bye for joining us today, have a wonderful time, God bless you. Bye...