

## **Conversation Starter**

*For the week of June 8 to 14, 2008*

This week's theme: Living Water Coming From Within Us

Reading #1: John 7:37-39

Reading #2: Acts 2:1-4

Immediately prior to the gospel reading during Trinity Church's 10:00am services, there is sung what is known as "The Gospel Acclamation". In one of the acclamations we find these words:

*With joy you shall draw water from  
the springs of endless, endless life:  
With joy you shall draw water from  
the living well of God.*

When Jesus said: "*Whoever believes in Me...streams of living water will flow from within him*", He was referring to a future time because the Holy Spirit was not yet available to all believers in Him. (See Reading #1: John 7:37-39.) And this future time was known, and has continued to be known, as the day of Pentecost which Christians throughout the world celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit in power. As recorded in the book of Acts: *When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.* (Reading #2: Acts 2:1-4) This year the day of Pentecost was just a couple of weeks ago -- May 11. Because of the events of that first Pentecost which still affects the Christian church today, we too can have living water coming from within us. It's true, the power of the Holy Spirit is readily available to us right now. It's true, we don't have to wait for "*streams of living water*" to flow from within us. If Jesus is your friend and Saviour, ask Him to show you how these "*streams of living water*" can flow from within you in greater measure. Ask Him to empower you with His Spirit – that is, the Holy Spirit.

1. Where do the "streams of living water" come from? OR what is the source of these "streams of living water"?
2. Why are these streams called "living water"?
3. What can prevent or diminish streams of living water coming from within us?
4. What must first happen within our lives before *streams of living water* can flow from within us?
5. Since the reality of *streams of living water* are tied to the work of the Holy Spirit within us, what positive changes in our lives should we expect to see if these *streams* are actually flowing?
6. Do you have any questions about the Holy Spirit such as: Who is He? What's His role? How do we know when the Holy Spirit's inside us? How does the Holy Spirit "fill us"? If you do have questions, ask them now so you can hear what others in your group know about the Holy Spirit.

Prepared on: Sunday, May 25, 2008

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