

HOW DEEP IS YOUR WELL?

As you know, the Holy Spirit often deals with me with questions. Two years ago, you might remember that He startled me with the question, “**Do you not discern the times?**” Since then, it has become increasingly clear that we are all being drawn to the climax of history—the return of Christ—almost as though in a vortex. It seems as though our world is caught in a whirlwind of change. Profoundly significant changes are happening faster than our ability to fully recognize or begin to understand the transformation that is taking place!

This year, as I stood on the brink of another new year, the Word of the Lord came to me again in the form of a question: “**How deep is your well?**” As the question resonated deep within me, I sensed that I was going to need a very deep well indeed. And just as with the other question two years ago, it is not for me alone. It is rather a call, an exhortation from the Holy Spirit as He faithfully readies His people for what is to come. For two years I have taught, preached and worked to help people everywhere I go to “discern the times.” However, I realize that a new assignment came with this new question. Now I am to help people “dig their wells” deeper.

HOW DEEP IS YOUR WELL?

In John 4:14, Jesus said, “But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” **Your “well” is your personal access to the Living Water that is the very life of Christ.** When we partake of Christ, His Spirit is that Living Water. The Living Water that is the very basis of our eternal life is fundamental to our spiritual lives. **Our ability and our willingness to drink from that Living Water is our “well,” so to speak.**

While some take great care to keep their wells clean and unpolluted, many drink much more often from other people’s wells. For example, we go to church and we expect that the pastor will have already drawn a long, cool drink of Living Water for us (well, maybe not *too* long of a drink)! We hope the worship team will have a sparkling drink waiting as well. Surely there will be people there who flow in the gifts of the Spirit—perhaps a prophetic gulp of Living Water, or a sip of tongues and interpretation. . . .



Look What GOD Did!

in 2008

Because of your partnership in prayer and finances, we had the privilege of bringing the LIVING WATER to thousands of people spread over the nations of Bhutan, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Vietnam and the U.S.!

Deborah Ministries International:

- Taught upcoming leadership in the Rhema Bible School in Costa Rica,
- Ministered to Vietnamese pastors of the underground church,
- Instilled hope and strength in the underground churches of Bhutan and Vietnam through the Spirit and the Word of God,
- Ministered in power and revelation to business and government leaders in Colombia,
- Reached thousands of Brazilians with the encouragement of the Word of God,
- Helped build homes for underprivileged families in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam,
- Provided financial support to the care of orphans in Nepal and Kenya,
- Provided financial help to our Kenyan brothers and sisters during their national political crises earlier in the year, and
- Brought encouragement and strength to each other here at home!

Do not misunderstand me; I enjoy drinking heartily from the “public well,” but I recognize that Jesus is supremely interested in the *personal* well that is springing up in me... *as He is interested in the one that is springing up in you.*

LIVING WATER MUST BE RECEIVED DAILY

It is interesting to me that He used the illustration of water. We cannot “store up” water within our bodies. We cannot drink all that we will ever need today and then not ever have to worry about drinking again. **We must drink daily.** Spiritually, it is the same. We must partake of the Life that is offered to us in Christ *daily*. It is in that daily drawing from all that Christ is—righteousness, strength, love, grace, mercy, redemption (the list could go on and on)—that we find our strength and vitality.

WHAT WILL WE DRINK TO QUENCH THE THIRST?

I believe that as end time events gather more and more velocity, we will increasingly feel the pressure of the spiritual whirlwind that is swirling all around us. What this will look like in the natural is exactly what we are now seeing and experiencing—pressure. There will continue to be more and more pressure in circumstances, which will put more pressure on relationships. Pressure translates to unrest and often “presses” on us to seek a means of escape. We will “thirst” for relief. The question is: **what will we drink to quench that thirst?**

I am old enough to remember the days when my parents would drive to the well and we would fill our large water cans with a week’s supply of fresh, sparkling cold well water. The well was extremely important to us because of what it gave us access to: the basic necessity of life. I remember how I loved going on the outing, and how I giggled as the water began to gush forth from the pump!

One of the things that I have learned in my traveling to equatorial countries is that nothing quenches my thirst like water. When I am here, in the relative comfort of my home, I can drink any number of things. But when I am on the equator in Kenya, I WANT WATER. Things like soda or juice are cruel impersonators as thirst quenchers because I am only thirstier for having drunk them! So it is when we seek to drink of any other means of escape from the pressure. Though other things temporarily taste good, they only leave us even more dehydrated and depleted, because they do not have the ability to instill LIFE, sustenance, and strength.

How deep is your well? Have you trained yourself to reach deep into your spirit to find the Living Water that will provide you with the strength and joy to meet every difficulty that comes your way? Or, when pressure mounts, do you find that your ability or willingness to draw from your spirit is clouded by a lazy soul (an untrained mind, unruly emotions, and a weak will)?

In John 8:38, Jesus said, He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.” Wow. Rivers should be flowing from us! The Holy Spirit is calling us to check to make sure that there is nothing that we are allowing (through negligence, perhaps) to clog the flow. He knows that we are going to need a strong, clear flow of spiritual LIFE to sustain us through the pressure-filled times ahead.

KEEP YOUR WELL UNPOLLUTED THROUGH
SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE

More than ever, we need to protect our wells from pollution. Simply put, we need to sit up and take notice that our own personal communion with the Lord is clean, clear, and unclouded. Now is not the time to turn a blind eye to small dams of unbelief, roots of bitterness, or anything else that would infringe on the flow of LIFE to our souls and circumstances. It is the Lord’s responsibility to provide the Living Water; **it is our responsibility to keep our own access to it unclogged.**

Let me encourage you to stretch in disciplining yourself to dig deeper spiritually. Refuse to allow yourself to drink only from “public wells.” Don’t just *read* your Bible—*drink from the essence of the Life it offers*. Resist the temptation to go on “autopilot” while praying—focus on actually *communing with Jesus*. When you feel the pressure mounting and the need to escape, discipline yourself to take a LIFE break and reach deep into your spirit to draw out an assuring scripture, a precious promise, or a strengthening affirmation of truth! **And, precious friends, expect to be victorious as a result. Purpose in your heart to expect that the strength you need will be provided as you drink from the Living Water.** Then—just as I looked forward as a child to when it was time to go to the well—you will thrill to the joy of feeling the rush of that clean, clear, refreshing Water wash over you—bringing joy to your soul!

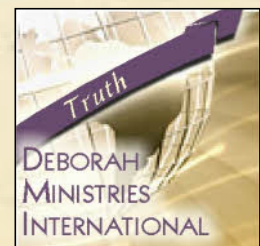
I love you, precious friends and partners in ministry.

Deborah



Deborah Ministries International ministers in response to Hosea 4:6, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” and John 8:32, “Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.”

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Save the date!
Join Deborah
at the
**Crossfire
Women's
Retreat**
May 1-3, 2009
Estes Park, Colorado

Please begin covering my upcoming trip to Kenya and Nigeria in prayer. Nigeria will be another new frontier for us! The trip is scheduled for April. I will be doing pastors' conferences in two different cities of Kenya, and a Prophetic Healing Explosion Crusade in Nigeria!