



Ice Breaker (in groups of 2 or 3 for larger groups)

Share something you remember from any graduation ceremony you have participated in.

Talk About it!

QUESTION 1

Psalm 46:4 New Living Translation

4 A river brings joy to the city of our God, the sacred home of the Most High.

Discuss:

Why do you think the metaphor of the river is used to describe interaction with and engagement with God? What do you need from this river today?

QUESTION 2

Matthew 3:13-17 New Living Translation

13 Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. 14 But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?"

15 But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him. 16 After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

Discuss:

When were you personally baptized? If you haven't been yet, what is holding you back?

QUESTION 3

Matthew 3:16-17 New Living Translation

16 After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

Discuss:

In the message we discovered four factors modeled in Jesus' baptism moment that can foster the flow of the river of God in our lives.

What were they? Which one comes naturally to you? Which one is a struggle?



QUESTION 4

Revelation 22:1-2 New Living Translation

1 Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 It flowed down the center of the main street. On each side of the river grew a tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, with a fresh crop each month. The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations.

Isaiah 41:17-20 New Living Translation

*17 "When the poor and needy search for water and there is none,
and their tongues are parched from thirst,
then I, the Lord, will answer them.*

I, the God of Israel, will never abandon them.

18 I will open up rivers for them on the high plateaus.

I will give them fountains of water in the valleys.

I will fill the desert with pools of water.

Rivers fed by springs will flow across the parched ground.

19 I will plant trees in the barren desert—

cedar, acacia, myrtle, olive, cypress, fir, and pine.

20 I am doing this so all who see this miracle

will understand what it means—

that it is the Lord who has done this,

the Holy One of Israel who created it.

Discuss:

How does the river of God seem to you?

What element of what the river of God can do do you need most?