

## “WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE THIRST IS GONE” (Exodus 17:1-7)

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### **Intro:**

When something is new and fresh  
When it becomes old we start becoming complacent

### **Set the Table**

God has provided for the Israelites:

- Shelter
- Direction
- Visionary
- Opportunity

### **While in the Wilderness of Sin They Camped at Rephidim**

Rephidim - a place 250 km above sea level, a valley surrounded by mountains of sand, a place in the wilderness

A. What's the Rephidim in your life

- i. Home of the Amalekites
  1. A peculiar people
  2. Israel's first enemies
- ii. A desolate place
  1. A place that's empty—a false sense of security
  2. A loveless place
  3. A lifeless place in the middle of the valley

### **1. The Importance of Daily Water**

A. Water is essential for the cells and organs in our bodies to function, allowing us to engage in complex activities

B. A lack of water causes:

- i. Muscle fatigue
  1. Tired; working hard but not seeing the results
- ii. Reduced cognitive processing
  1. The ability to recognize right and wrong
- iii. Confused or dazed states of awareness
  1. Accept things for what they are
- iv. Dry mouth
  1. Lacking the ability to shout out His praises

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**2. Lack of Water Causes a Contentious Environment**

- A. Why was it so bad that they wanted to stone the leader after all he has done
  - i. They forgot how God has used him to get them to this point
  - ii. The heat of the wilderness
  - iii. Tiredness
  - iv. Anger because of lack of understanding
- B. A contentious environment can cause:
  - i. A lack of unity amongst the people
  - ii. Jealousy/Envy
  - iii. Separation
  - iv. Lack of patience

**3. Jesus is Our Water Provider**

- A. Stand and strike the rock for the people may drink
  - i. We found out in Matthew that The Church is the Rock and Jesus is the Water
    - 1. Told Moses to stand:
      - a. To stand in front of your accusers
      - b. To be anchored in the Lord with the confidence in knowing that God is before us
      - c. To be ready
    - 2. Told Moses to strike:
      - a. Strike - to pierce or penetrate
      - b. This is a call to action
      - c. Being ready to move at his very word
      - d. God needed to Strike the Church
    - 3. People may drink
      - a. Without the preacher the people will perish
      - b. How can they hear without the preacher