

Thirsty?

Would you like a drink? Is a question we are often asked, and one that we will often respond to by saying yes please, particularly if it is hot weather. We all need water to help our bodies function properly, virtually all animals require water as well, and I am sure you have seen films and pictures of animals gathering around watering places to get a drink. I sometimes sit and watch the birds drinking in our pond, and they often squabble if another bird gets in their way.

Most of us have access to water through the taps in our houses and we are lucky. In days gone by, many people had to draw water from a well, which would involve dropping a bucket down into the water and then lifting it out. This would have been hard work.

In the time that Jesus was on earth, around 2000 years ago, the tap was not invented therefore people had to go to the well to get water. Where Jesus was, in the Middle East, it was hot, and most people would draw water at the beginning and end of the day. Some people who were not welcomed by the community would have to go at different times of the day, often around midday when the sun was at its hottest.

One day when Jesus was walking through a town around midday, he was thirsty, and he stopped at a well. A Samaritan lady came to draw water and after a conversation offered Jesus some water. This might not seem an extraordinary thing to do, but at the time it was, because Jesus was a Jew and the Jews did not talk to or associate with Samaritan people. Yet Jesus didn't worry about what the culture of the time was, he helped those who needed help and talked to anyone who would listen. You can find this account in John's Gospel chapter 4.

Christians refer to God as giving us life giving water, the Holy Spirit. This life-giving water/Holy Spirit gives Christians an extra feeling of specialness, strength and support in our lives. If you would like to know more, please join us at Stanground Baptist Church and ask about life giving water.

Please see our website for details of events and services.

www.stangroundbaptistchurch.org.uk

