



PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE



# Thirsty

## DISCUSSION ►

Oxford scholar C. S. Lewis was quoted in the presentation.

*“Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. . . . If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing.”*

—C. S. LEWIS, *MERE CHRISTIANITY*, p. 120, MacMillan, NY, 1979

Here are some other desires and their means of fulfillment:

Desire	Fulfillment
thirst	water
knowledge	information
companionship	people
children	procreation
accomplishment	success
recognition	awards
_____	_____
_____	_____





Can you think of others to add to the list?

Kyle suggested five ways we could view the possible fulfillment of our deepest thirst. As you approach this study, how would you describe your attitude? Would you say you are more cynical, skeptical, curious, settled, or satisfied, and why do you say so?

- Cynical—certain that pretty much everything is a scam
- Skeptical—suspicious of everything (politicians, preachers, even your own brother!) and need clear proof before trusting anything
- Curious—interested in finding truth and open to whatever it may be
- Settled—fairly content but knowing that your deepest longings are not being met
- Satisfied—certain you have found what you are looking for and, as a result, thoroughly fulfilled

Do you really believe Mandi lost her wedding ring in the ocean, and then Vince and Kyle found it later with an underwater metal detector in near total darkness?

- “No way! That has to be bogus.”
- “It’s doubtful. I’d have to see some convincing proof.”
- “It’s possible. I’d be interested in hearing more about it.”
- “Who cares? What does it matter?”
- “I’m not sure, but I do know I’ve had equally thrilling experiences in my life.”

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### FOR REFLECTION

These are optional thought questions to ponder or respond to in writing between sessions. You will *not* be asked to share them in the next session, but you may find it helpful to talk them over with a friend.



Is there anything you picked up from the DVD or group time that you would like to think more about or be sure to remember?

Try to describe your own deep thirst, if you feel you have one.

Do you experience this thirst at certain times more than others? If so, when are those times of intensified thirst?

Why might you feel this thirst more at these times?

What have you found to be the thirst-quenching ability of . . .

<b>Money</b>	Zero	Low	Medium	High	Complete
<b>Possessions</b>	Zero	Low	Medium	High	Complete
<b>Success</b>	Zero	Low	Medium	High	Complete
<b>Relationships</b>	Zero	Low	Medium	High	Complete

When you do get thirsty in the deeper sense, what do you generally turn to in order to quench your thirst?

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Thirsty >> 7

Describe how well it works.

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*Jesus stood and said in a loud voice,  
"If anyone is thirsty,  
let him come to me and drink."*

—JOHN 7:37