Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” The Samaritan woman said, “What! You a Jew, ask a drink of me, a Samaritan woman?” (Jews and Samaritans, it should be noted, do not use vessels in common.) Jesus answered her, “If only you knew what God gives, and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” (John 4:9-10) NEB.

Jesus asks for a simple service to Himself in order that He may give in return a gift that nothing on this earth can buy, “Give me a drink.” And do you know what? She didn’t! Scripture records the conversation, and then simply says that she put her water jar down and ran to town to start a revival. Perhaps we can see that the pattern of God seems to remain the same, and all too often our response is the same too. The pattern is that God initiates, invites us to serve Him with love for Him with what we have in hand, and our response is often to run off and serve someone else thinking that we have therefore served Him. Let’s look at the story recorded here and see how we might better respond to Jesus as the one God has sent for us to love.

Perhaps we should begin in the very natural facts presented. It was about midday, Jesus had been traveling with His disciples, and he was tired, hungry and thirsty. He sat down near this well, and he was tired, hungry and thirsty. He sat down near this well, and he was tired, hungry and thirsty. He sat down near this well, and he was tired, hungry and thirsty. He sat down near this well. It was about midday, Jesus had been traveling with His disciples, and he was tired, hungry and thirsty. He sat down near this well, and he was tired, hungry and thirsty. He sat down near this well, and he was tired, hungry and thirsty. He sat down near this well. Perhaps we can see that the pattern of God seems to remain the same, and all too often our response is the same too. The pattern is that God initiates, invites us to serve Him with love for Him with what we have in hand, and our response is often to run off and serve someone else thinking that we have therefore served Him. Let’s look at the story recorded here and see how we might better respond to Jesus as the one God has sent for us to love.

So as Jesus begins the conversation with the simple request for a drink we must be reminded of what his real thirst was, and still is—that the Father’s work and will be completed. His real thirst, even stronger than the natural, is for each one of God’s children to be united with their real Father in heaven. St Paul could say” I bruise my body and make it know it’s master ..” surely this was the same spirit of Jesus living in Paul. Living for the will of God as more important than anything else life had to offer. Jesus asks of each of us the same question today, “Will you give me a drink?” “Will you give to me the only thing that can quench my thirst?” “Will you give me your life that I may give you mine?”

The prophet Jeremiah says, “I alone know my purpose for you, says the Lord; prosperity and not misfortune...” “If you invoke me and pray to me, I will listen to you; when you seek me, you shall find me; if you search with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord.” (see Jer.29: 11-14) What each of us needs to ask is if we really want God, or do we only want what He can give us? And who should we ask this kind of a question? If we ask ourselves, we will surely answer, “of course” we only want God. But in fact we must ask God what is really in my heart because Scripture again records, “The heart is the most deceitful of all things, desperately sick, who can fathom it? I, the Lord, search the mind and test the heart,” (Jer. 17:9-10) NEB.

The prophet Ezekiel records for us that there is a difference between serving the Lord himself, and serving the people of God. (see Ezekiel 44:9-26) God is again inviting His people to come near to Him and serve Him in this wave of sovereign outpouring of the experience of the Holy Spirit as in the Charismatic Renewal. Around the world this outpouring is in response to our prayers before and during the II Vatican Council. When our Bishop’s stated in the Document on the Laity that all baptized believers should be serving in the power of the Holy Spirit through the ministry of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, they were proclaiming the truth we have had from the beginning. The mission of the Church is evangelism, and the method of God is by the power of the Holy Spirit. (see Acts 1: 4-8) Pentecost must be an ongoing experience in the people of God if we are to carry out that mission. Although all are called to live their faith as a testimony of God’s love in Jesus Christ, and be willing to share it whenever possible, the way we serve is chosen and appointed by God. Some will be called to serve as priests, religious, or deacons and brothers, and we need to pray for these vocations, but what God is doing is augmenting these ministries with the responsibilities of every one of us to serve Him in our station of life. Under proper order and submission the Lord is empowering for service everyone who will respond, and the work of the prayer meeting in the Charismatic renewal is one of those areas of service. As we perceive it the Holy Spirit is not seeking to get everyone into 'membership' in a prayer meeting, or even necessarily speaking in tongues, (although that is such an asset we can’t imagine why not), but rather God is seeking the kind of personal relationship with each of His children that we are truly proud of our Lord Jesus Christ and really want to tell
through Jesus Christ, and seek to minister to whom ever God brings by all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The fewer there are in the meeting the more each one needs to seek to be the servant that will bring the gifts of the Holy Spirit into the meeting. Through our submission and service God will be able to do in the lives of our brothers and sisters the work of encouraging, enabling, empowering for service. We have a task beloved, a very important task, but we are not to do it alone without the rest of the Body of Christ. But if all of us will respond as God has called, the wave of evangelism will flow out into a dark world of hopelessness and bring the light of Christ, and the Name of Jesus to the world, and one day Jesus’ thirst will be satisfied. He says again today, “I Thirst.” “Will you give me a drink?” If your heart is now saying ‘yes’ again with ours, then we must recog-