



BECOMING AWARE OF OUR THIRST

April 3, 2016

The route to facing our thirst involves three key steps:

1. Admit Confusion:

- Ask tough questions.
- Don't cover confusion with the blanket of dogmatism or easy answers.
- Let confusion drive you to faith.

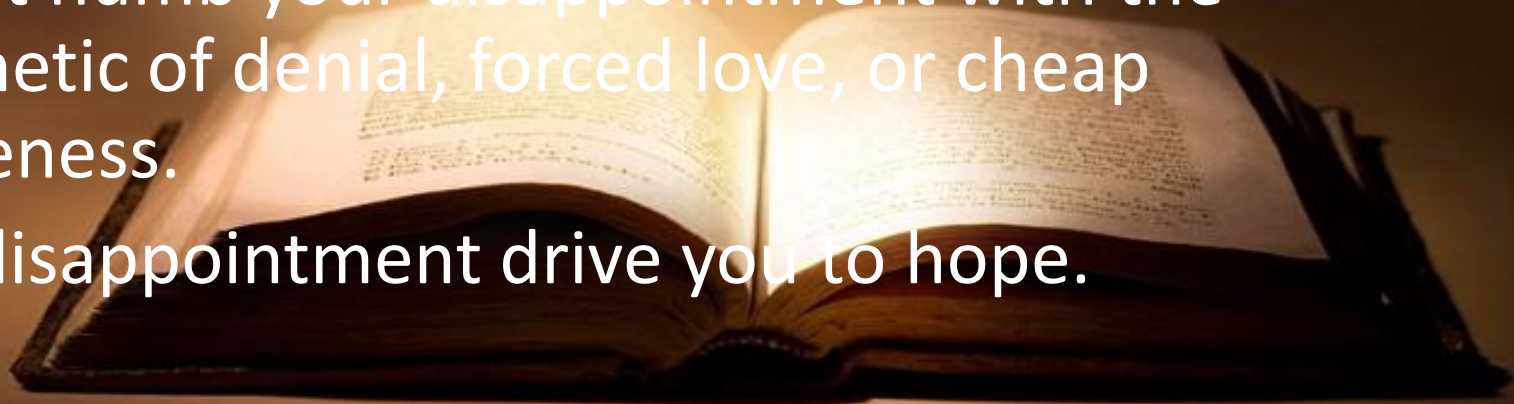
*"It was for Freedom
that we exist."*

FREEDOM

The route to facing our thirst involves three key steps:

2. Acknowledge Disappointment:

- Reflect on how others have let you down, failed to come through as you deeply wanted them do.
- Don't numb your disappointment with the anesthetic of denial, forced love, or cheap forgiveness.
- Let disappointment drive you to hope.



The route to facing our thirst involves three key steps:

3. Accept Conviction:

- Look squarely at how you protect yourself from feeling disappointment in relationships by keeping your distance from people.
- Don't escape conviction by trying hard to always do the right thing. Explore the motives beneath your "good behavior."
- Let conviction drive you to love.

Continued..

- Change from the inside out begins with an awareness of our thirst. It continues with an awareness of how we try to satisfy our thirst with our own resources.



ASK YOURSELF

- How do we give up digging our own wells so we can turn to the well of living water? What does it mean to let the Lord quench our thirst? That is the subject of Part III.

Psalm 42

- As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? ³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”

Psalm 42 Cont.

- 4 These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng 5 Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me. Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God

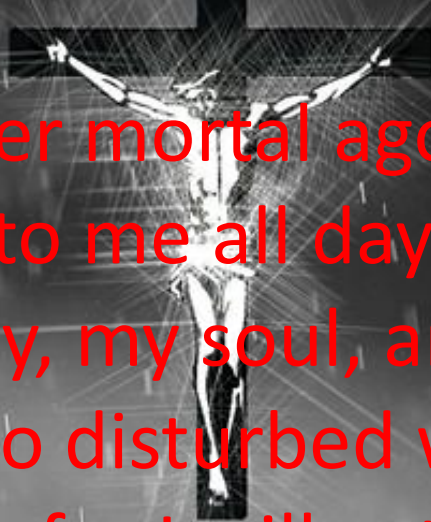
Psalm 42 Cont.

- 6 My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar. 7 Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me.

Psalm 42 Cont.

- 8 By day the LORD directs his love, at night his song is with me— a prayer to the God of my life.⁹ I say to God my Rock, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?”

Psalm 42 Cont.



- 10 My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, “Where is your God? 11 Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.