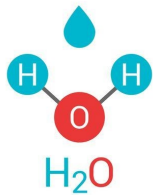


## Living the Creed – Sunday, September 27, 2020

[Then the LORD said to Moses,] “I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” — Exodus 17:6



A simple water molecule has 2 hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom.

These three atoms form a bond and become one of the most crucial elements on the planet. Approximately 71% of the earth’s surface is covered

by water. And it is said that all the water that has ever been is still here, and all the water that will ever be, is already here.

Think about how often you use water in a single day. It is probably so often you don’t even stop to realize you are using water. It freely flows from our taps in the kitchen and bathroom. Our laundry machines run all day without a second thought. And anytime we go to the ice machine, there it is—water. We never notice it when it we have plenty. We almost certainly notice it when it is absent.

Think about how often you are aware the water is missing. Drought conditions for farmlands? Your bottle runs dry while hiking or exercising? The brand of bottled water you buy is out at the store?

Our reaction when water is missing is quite high, considering when it is plentiful we take it for granted. For today’s Living the Creed we will look at water resources and how for some it is really absent, while for others it is merely an inconvenience that we have to wait a little longer.

### Read Exodus 17:1-7

Talk about a time when you had a problem of too much water. Did your house flood? Were the roads blocked so you couldn’t get out? Maybe too much snow (that is frozen water, after all)? What was that time like? How did you manage?

Talk about a time when water was running too low for your comfort. Were your fields parched? Did your family well dry up? Was the cistern dry? What was that time like? How did you manage? \_\_\_\_\_

If you had your choice of your absolute favorite water to drink, and it was all you could drink, what would it be? Would it be from your own tap in the kitchen? Would it be a particular brand? \_\_\_\_\_

Monmouth is known for water quality issues. What do you remember from when the water quality was really bad? What did it take for the community to improve the water to what it is today? Do you consider the water in Monmouth safe to drink today? \_\_\_\_\_



#7 Rephidim, also known as Merri-bah and Massah

Moses and the Israelites are almost to Mt Sinai/Mt. Horeb, the mountain of God. At the holy mountain, they will worship God, give God thanks for the miraculous escape from Egypt, and be given the law.

Along the way, they have already had problems finding water, they ran out of food, and now as the approach a place called Rephidim, they are out of water again. For a people who have seen God’s hand do miraculous things, they still have a long way to go before they fully trust God. So they complain to Moses, and Moses has to go to God and complain about these people he has to lead. And God has to provide, again, for their needs. It almost makes you wonder if there will ever be a time when God’s chosen people stop complaining against God. Spoiler alert: there is no such time



The Water Project, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization unlocking human potential by providing reliable water

projects to communities in sub-Saharan Africa who suffer needlessly from a lack of access to clean water and proper sanitation.

For ten years, we have been helping communities gain access to clean, safe water by providing training, expertise and financial support for water project construction through our staff and implementing partners.

Go to [https://thewaterproject.org/water-scarcity/water\\_stats](https://thewaterproject.org/water-scarcity/water_stats)

And fill in the blanks on these statistics.

1. Worldwide 1 out of every \_\_\_\_ deaths of children under the age of 5 is due to a water related disease.
2. \_\_\_\_ million people do not have access to clean and safe water.
3. About \_\_\_\_ million people living in sub-Saharan Africa still use surface water.
4. \_\_\_\_ million school days are lost each year due to water-related diseases.
5. \_\_\_\_ billion people are without improved sanitation facilities.
6. globally we use \_\_\_\_ % of our water resources for agriculture and irrigation, and only \_\_\_\_ % for domestic purposes.

Answers: 1. 1 out of every 5; 2. 783 millions; 3. 102 million; 4. 443 million; 5. 2.4 billion; 6. 70% agriculture/irrigation and 10% domestic use

What other stats surprised you on the website?

How does The Water Project work to solve the water crisis?

“Our in-country teams build water wells, sand dams, spring protections, and other water solutions. Then, we make sure they keep working through regular follow-up and maintenance. “

### What We Build

We build new wells, rehab neglected wells, construct rain catchment tanks, protect springs and install sand dams where appropriate. We empower our in-country experts along with the communities themselves to determine what makes sense.

We've learned over the past 11 years that each community we serve is different. From basic geology, to climate and culture, many factors determine the most sustainable means to provide access to clean and safe water.

This picture is just one example of what they do:



And just for fun, here is a little water humor.