

## THE HEALTHY SOUL, PART 5: CONNECTING

### Discussion Questions

#### Introduction

1. Name some categories of experts who look like they should have no trouble with the subject of their expertise. Is there an area where others think you are an expert? Do you think about yourself the same way they do?
2. Why do you think that Larry and Rachael Crabb leaned hard on Kep when he was being wayward? How do you think this motivated Kep?
3. Have you ever seen a wayward person make a startling change for the better? What do you think caused it?

#### Jeremiah 2:13-19

1. Why would Israel or anyone turn from the "fountain of living waters" to empty cisterns?
2. What are some examples of empty cisterns today?
3. List some religious examples of the faces of disconnection from God—approaches to religion which look good but which perpetuate the barrier between God and people.
4. What are the end results of drinking from these empty cisterns?

#### John 4:1-14

1. How was Jesus' view of the Samaritan woman different from that of his disciples? How do you know?
2. List some groups of people who are shunned by many Christians today. What do you think the likely outcome of such shunning will be?
3. List some examples of movements which seek to bring healing to the human soul through community. Are these attempts wrong? Are they adequate (i.e. will they work)? Why or why not?
4. What is the place of the atonement in human community and the search for a healthy soul?
5. Give some examples of Christians who embrace the doctrines of the atonement and the fellowship of believers and yet work to divide believers from one another. Why do you think they do this? What would you say to them?

#### John 7:37b-39

1. Give some examples of stagnation of bodies of water. What are the marks of stagnation? How did those bodies of water get that way?
2. Give some examples of communities of people which have become stagnant. What are the marks? Why did it happen?
3. Give examples of people you have seen or known who have displayed the flow of "rivers of living water" from their "innermost being." How did you know it was from God?
4. List relationships you already have over which God might choose to work. Are you open to God using all of them in this way? Why or why not?
5. List some easy and natural ways we can be open to new relationships through which God might choose to work.

#### Romans 2:4

1. How does the kindness of God lead people to repentance? Can you think of examples you have seen of this principle in practice?
2. What is the place of the law of God in the dynamic of repentance? How does that fit with the kindness principle?
3. Describe an example of when you felt that God showed up on your behalf in the person of a human being. Have you ever been on the giving end of such an event? How so?