

## **A Daily Meditation – Life Giving Water**

In the country of the Bible, where desert conditions were part of the landscape, water was highly valued. The psalmists sang of it, Jesus used it to symbolize the life he came to give, the author of the Book of Revelation speaks of the river of life. Yes, water could be a danger but was always looked upon with respect.

In Canada, where most provinces are blessed with rivers and lakes, it can be easy to take water for granted. In fact, as water levels rise, it can sometimes be perceived as a threat.

My childhood in Saskatchewan taught me early to respect this precious resource. There in summer our water supply depended on rain, and in winter on snow melted in a tank in the kitchen. We were not allowed to use water for play. Laundry water and dishwater were used on the gardens.

When I sold my house and was planning how to share some of the proceeds, my cousin Howard put me in touch with Lifewater Canada. This organization was founded by, and is presided over by a hydro geologist who had to give up his career because of failing eyesight, a perfect example of those “who, going through the vale of misery, use it for a well.” In his case, the metaphor could not be more apt.

Lifewater Canada provides equipment and training for digging wells in places where safe water is not available, and provides ongoing assistance to keep the pumps operating. The dedication and generosity of volunteers working from their homes help to keep administrative costs at less than 7%.

In this time of Covid-19, we constantly reminded of the importance of sanitation, particularly hand washing. Perhaps this can spur us to be more diligent in keeping our waters free from pollution and being better stewards of all creation.

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