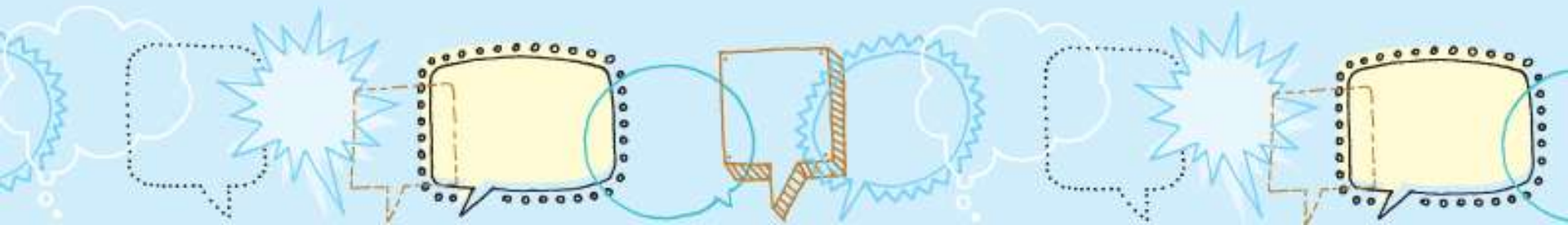
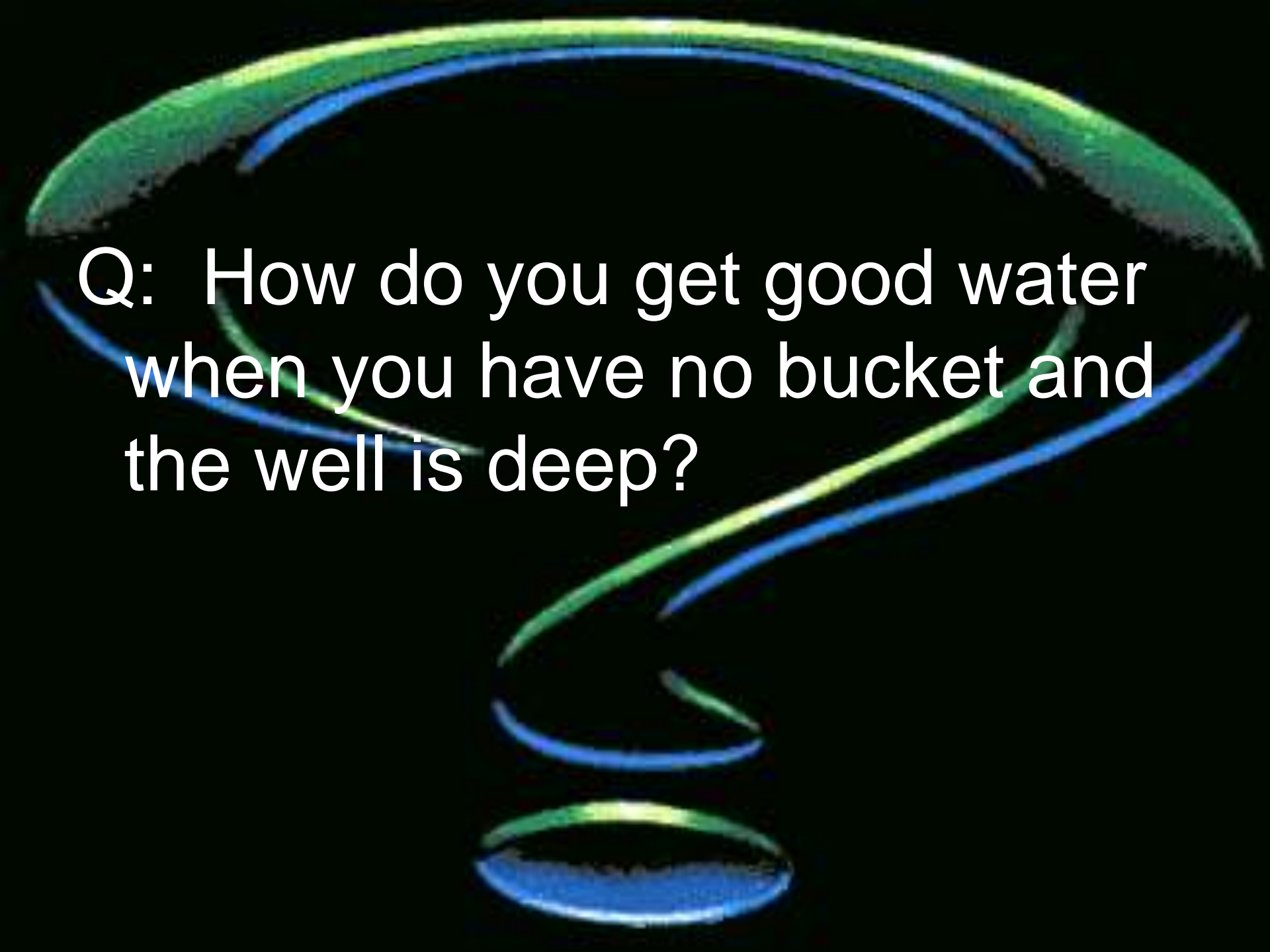


# Conversations with Christ

John 4

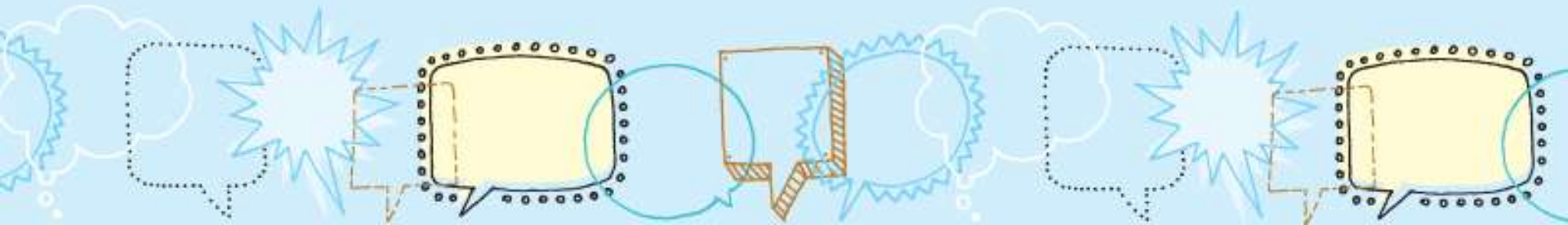




Q: How do you get good water  
when you have no bucket and  
the well is deep?

# Act 1: The Question

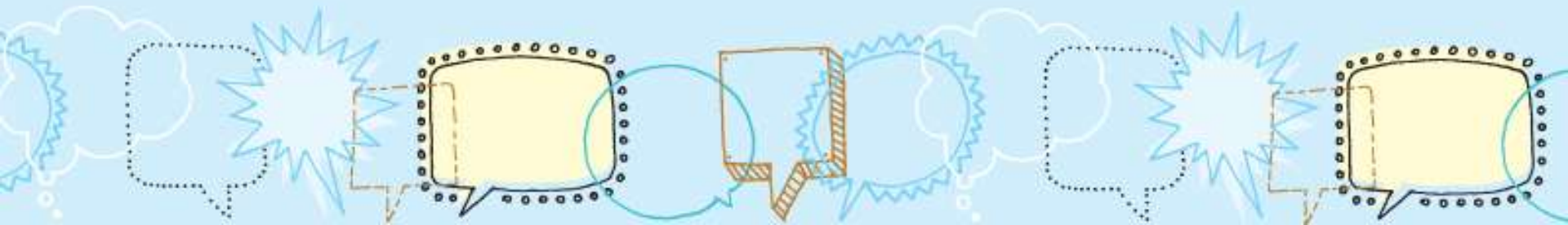
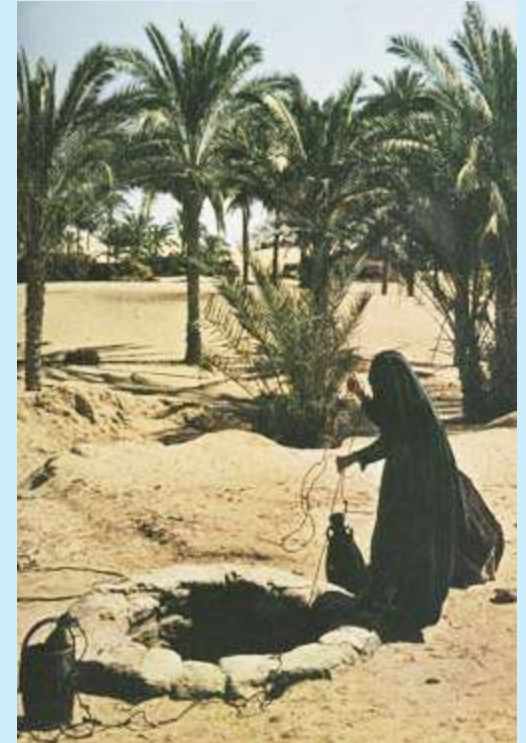
John 4: 1-14

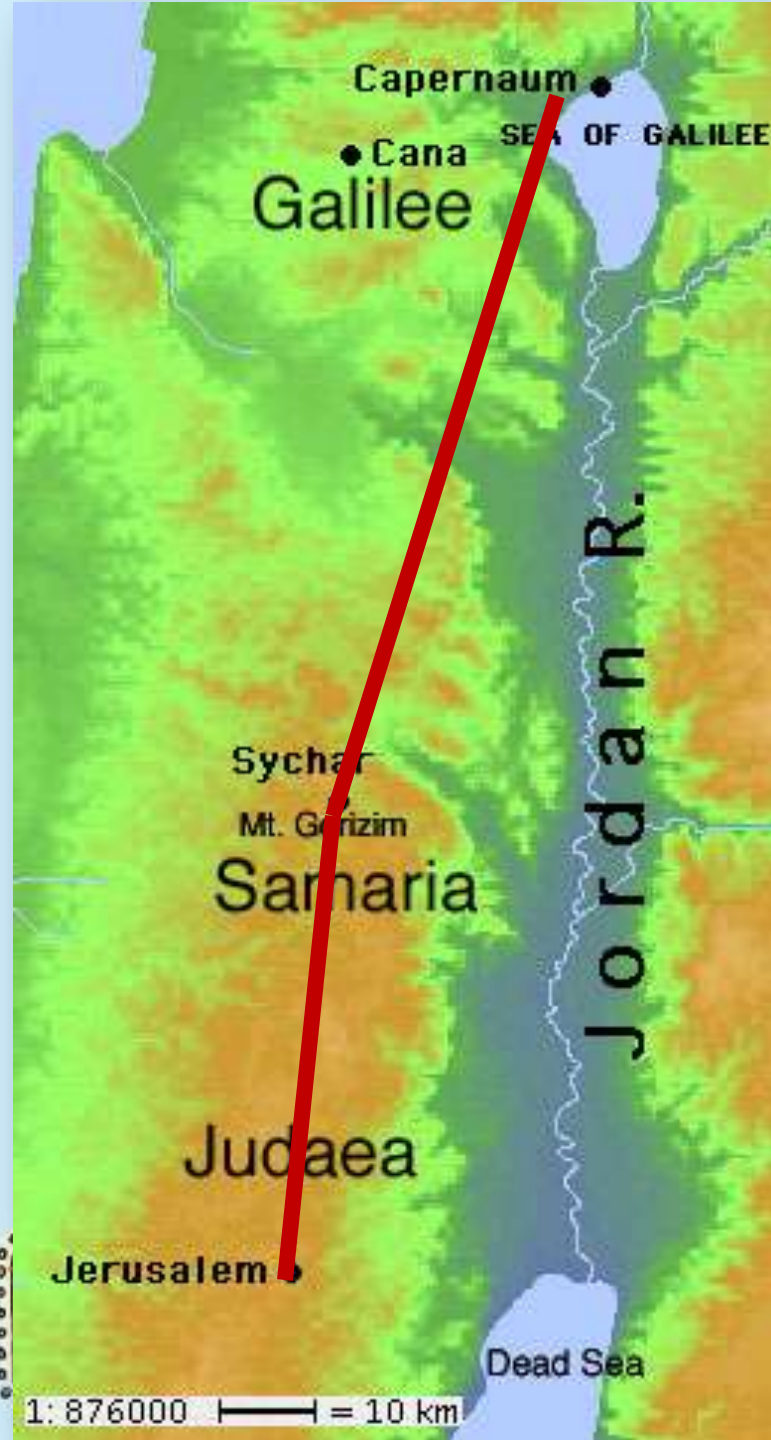


# Act 1 (JN 4: 1-14)

**Jesus.** Would you please give me a drink?

**Woman.** How can you ask me for a drink? There's a lot of animosity between our peoples.



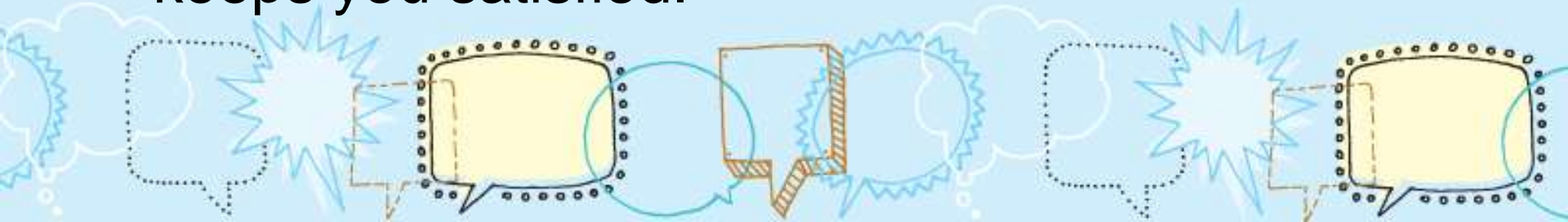
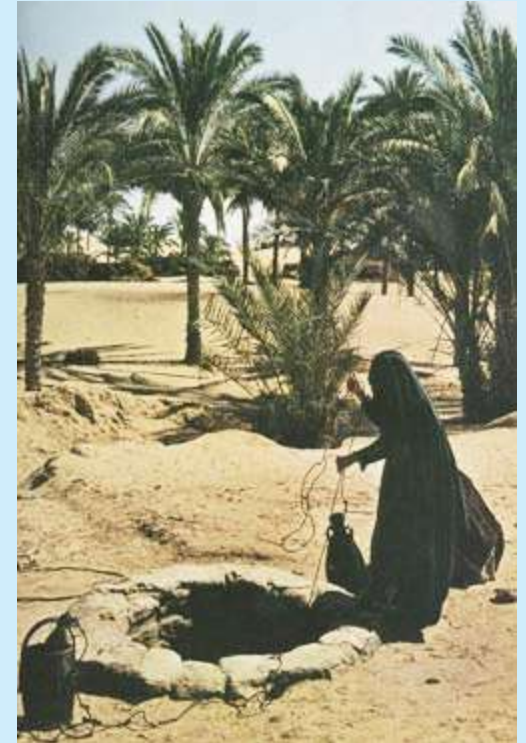


# Act 1 (JN 4: 1-14)

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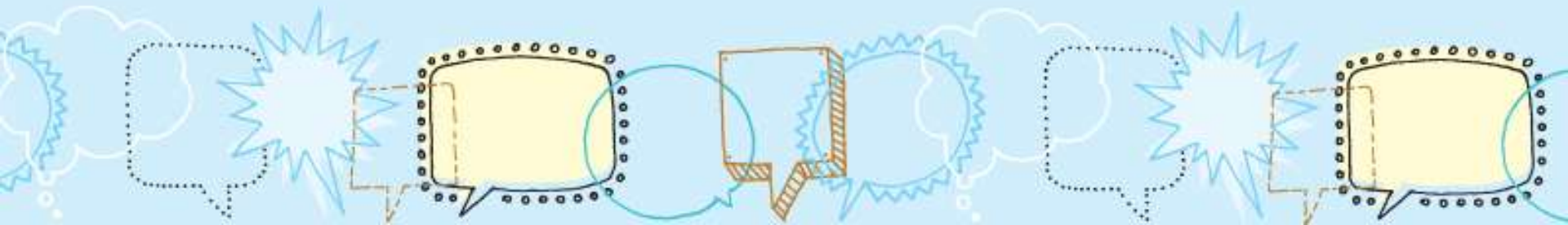
**Jesus.** Actually, if you knew the gift of God and who I was, you'd ask me for living water, water that keeps you satisfied.



# Why Jesus is hard to trust

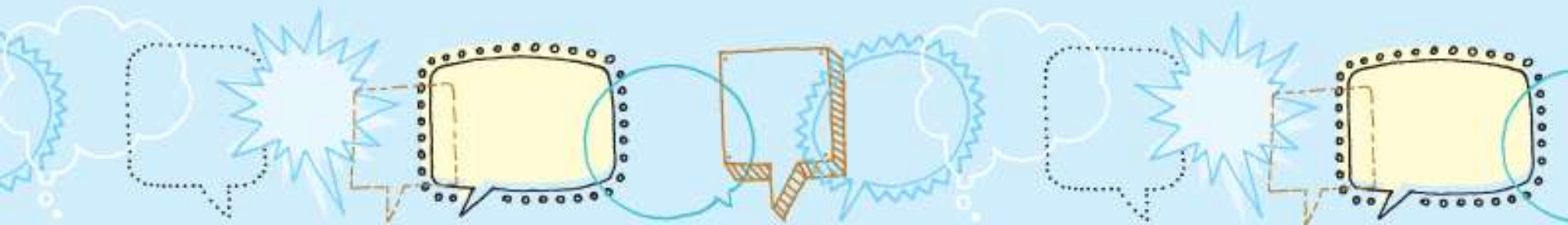
“Sir,” the woman said, “you don’t even have a bucket, and the well is deep.”

-John 4: 11



# Act 2: The Bigger Issue

John 4: 15-18



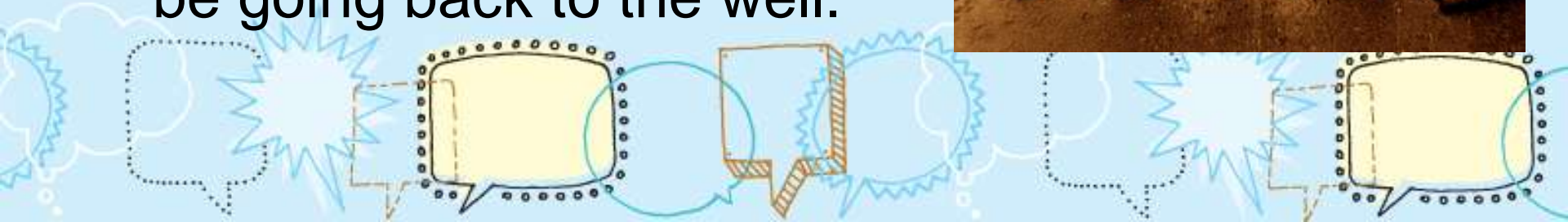
# Act 2 (JN 4: 15-18)

**Woman.** Sir, give me some of that living water!

**Jesus.** Go get your husband.

**Woman.** I don't have a husband.

**Jesus.** You're right about that....You seem to always be going back to the well.



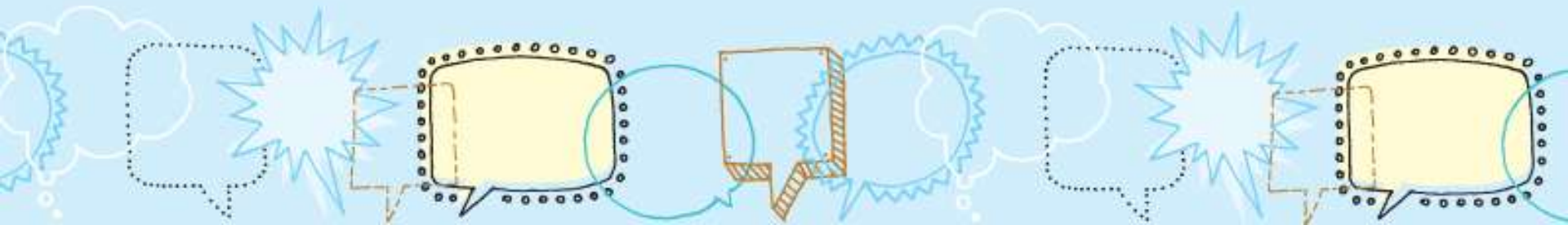
# Two well strategies



Improve the container      Reduce the well

# Act 3: What About Religion?

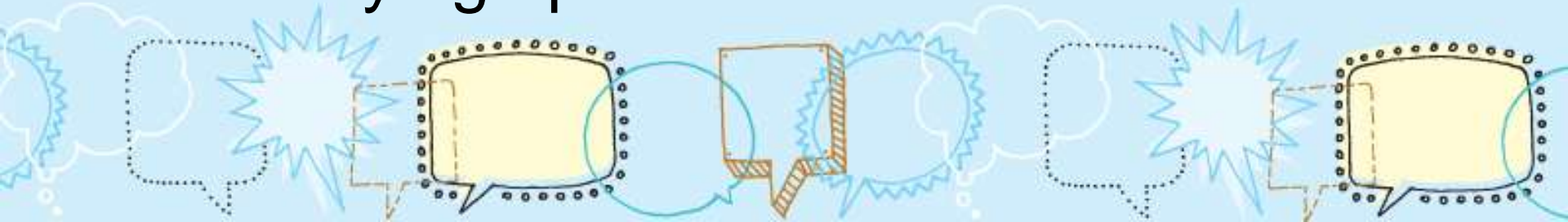
John 4: 19-24



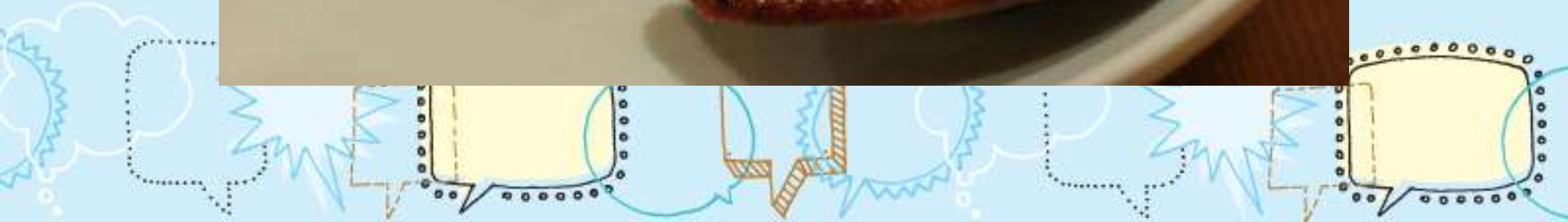
# Act 3 (JN 4: 19-24)

**Woman.** It's pretty obvious that you're a prophet. You know, there's a big difference between our religions.

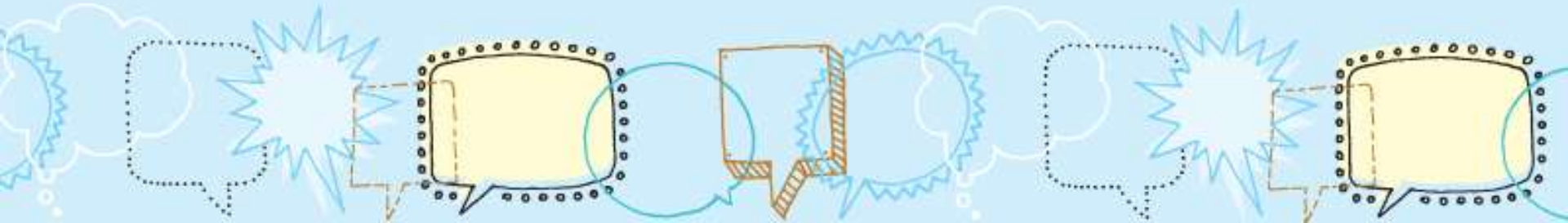
**Jesus.** You're close, but these religious wells are also drying up.



# “Mediating Structures”



# Religion as step down transformer

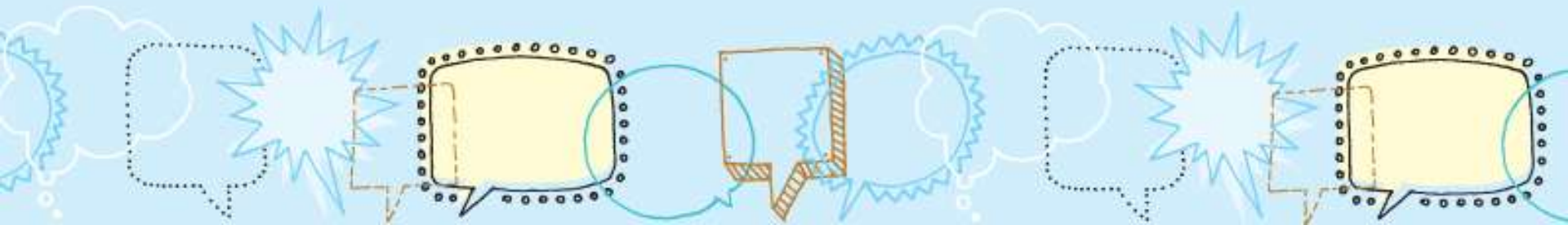


# Religious step down transformers



# Act 4: The Real Answer

John 4: 25-38

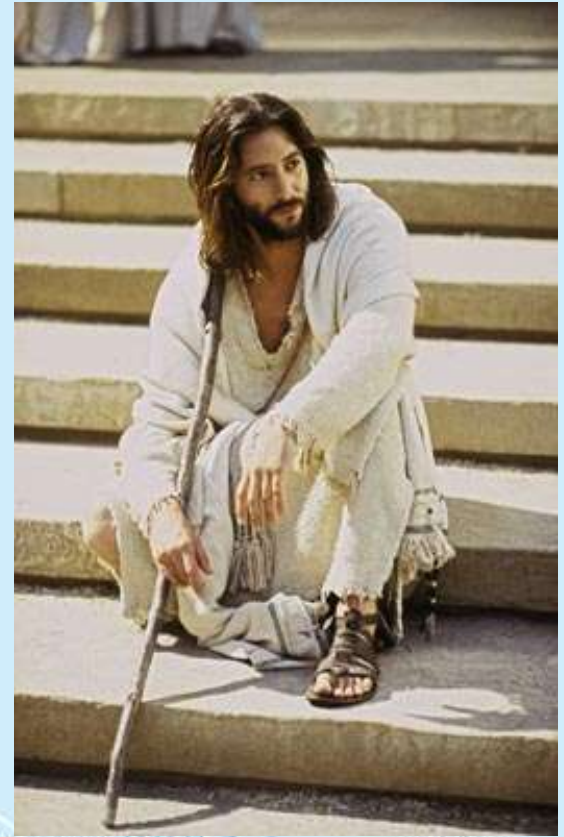


# Step 1: Meet the Messiah

**Jesus.** The time is coming, and has now come, when it's going to be about a personal relationship with God, not religious structures.

**Woman.** We're going to have to agree to disagree about religion. Some day God appearing among us will settle this.

**Jesus.** News flash: I am God appearing among you.

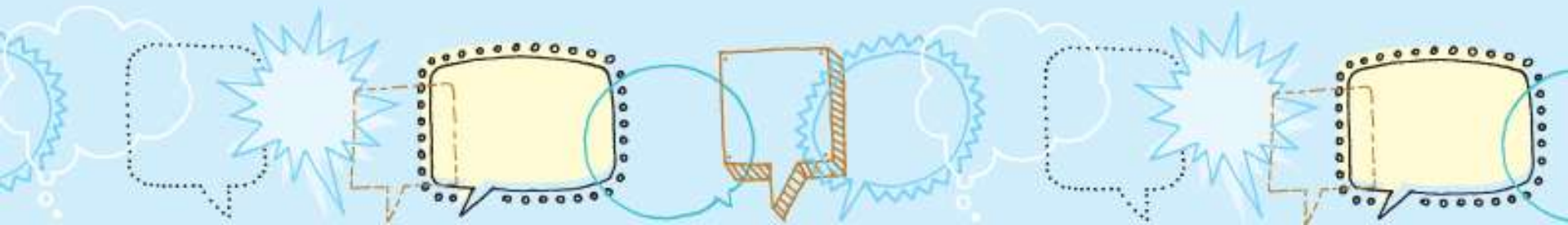


# God's (not my) will

*“...as a gay person, I refuse to let religion lay claim to naming what's holy and what's not, without insisting that I—and those of my kind—have some say in writing the definitions.”*



-The Rev. J. Bennett Guess



*“The newborn, lacking any other frame of reference, relates all early experience to himself, and himself alone. From his point of view, the world came into being at the moment he opened his eyes; therefore, the act of opening his eyes was the act of creation. It follows, from his point of view, that he reigns over all things, which exist for him and because of him. Amen.”*

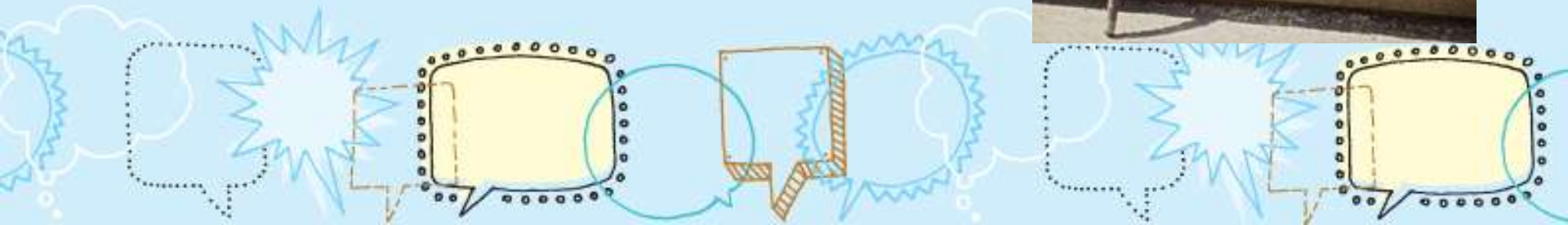
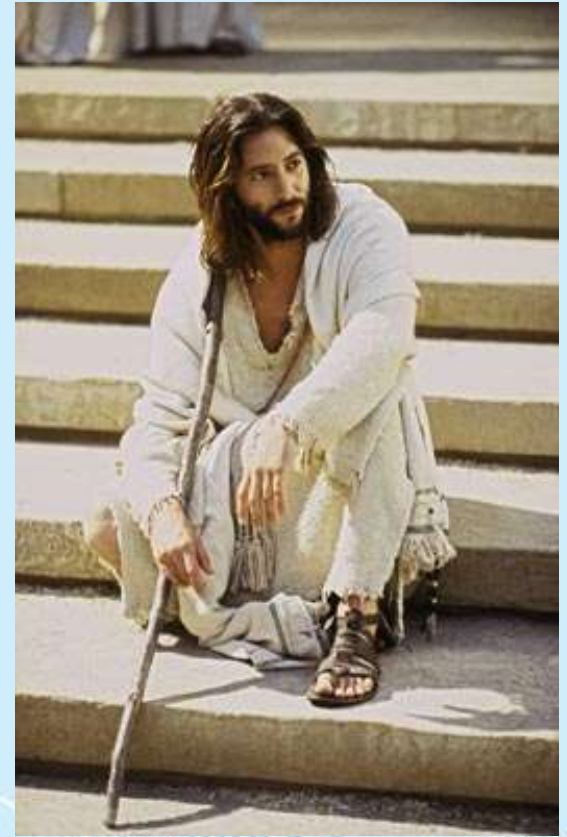


-John Rosemond, *Making the Terrible Twos Terrific*

# Satisfying our cravings

**Disciples.** You need to eat something.

**Jesus.** I have food that you know nothing about.

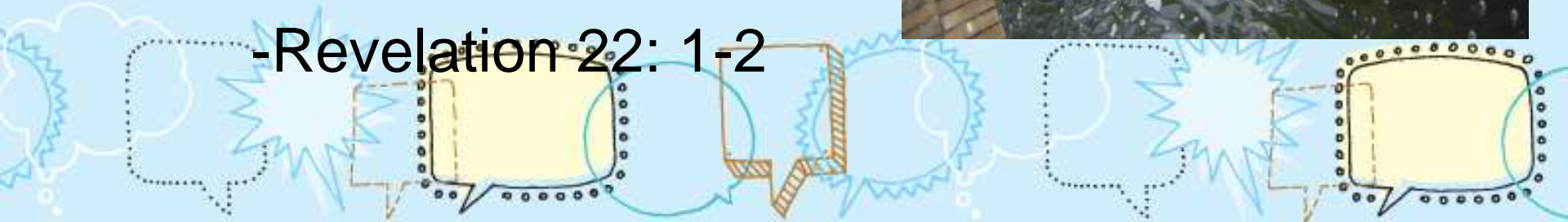


# His river, not our wells

Then the angel showed me the **river of the water of life**, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city.



-Revelation 22: 1-2



# He's the source of the river

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, **flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb** down the middle of the great street of the city.



-Revelation 22: 1-2

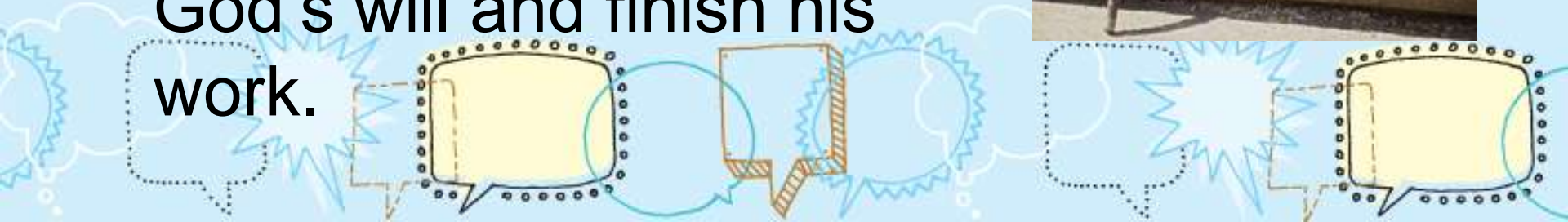
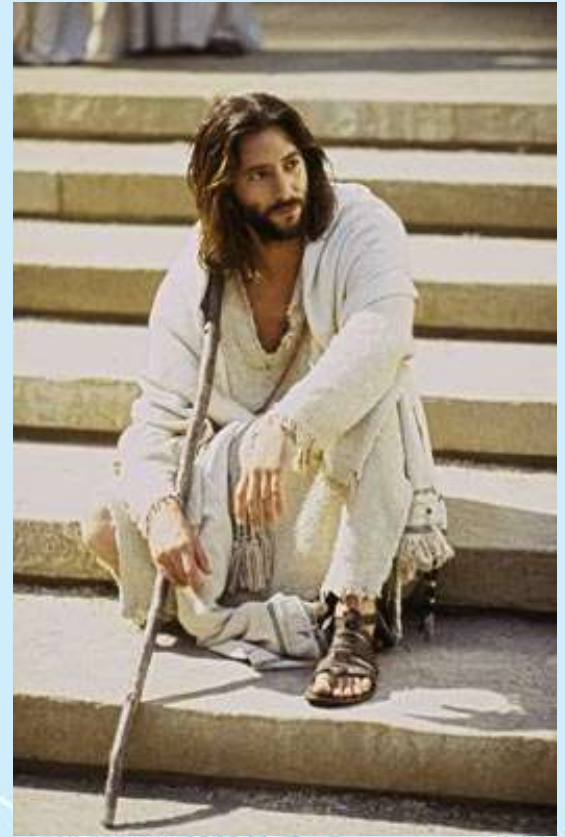
# Satisfying our cravings

**Disciples.** You need to eat something.

**Jesus.** I have food that you know nothing about.

**Disciples.** So where did you get it?

**Jesus.** My food is to do God's will and finish his work.



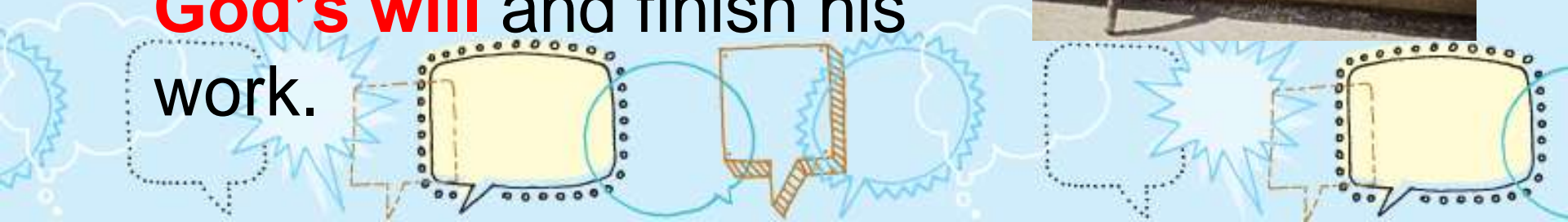
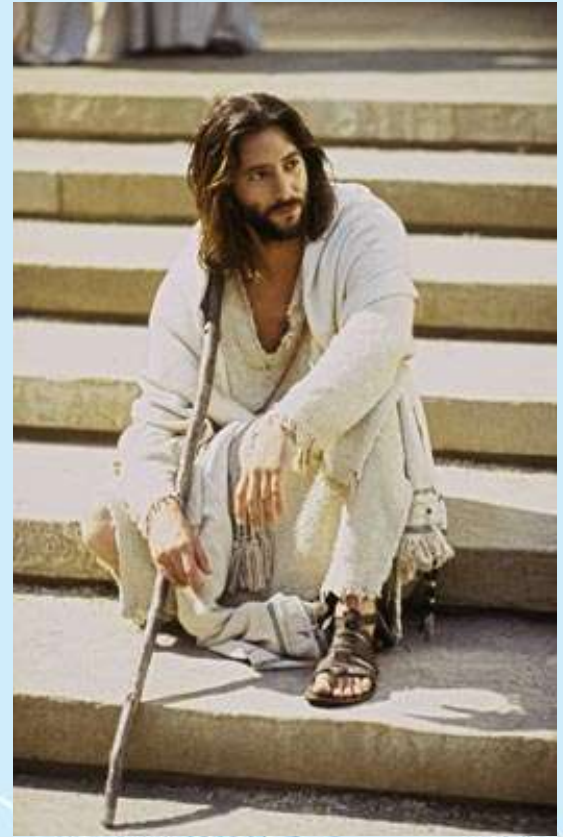
# Step 2: Discover God's will

**Disciples.** You need to eat something.

**Jesus.** I have food that you know nothing about.

**Disciples.** So where did you get it?

**Jesus.** My food is to **do**  
**God's will** and finish his work.



# God's will, not my preconceptions

*"I attended college in LA and wore black pumps to work every day. I ate sushi and treated myself to pedicures. Then I fell in love with a rugged rancher. Now I live in the middle of nowhere and spend my days wrangling children and washing jeans. I have no idea how I got here...but you know what? I love it. **Don't tell anyone.**"*



-Ree Drummond,  
[thepioneerwoman.com](http://thepioneerwoman.com)

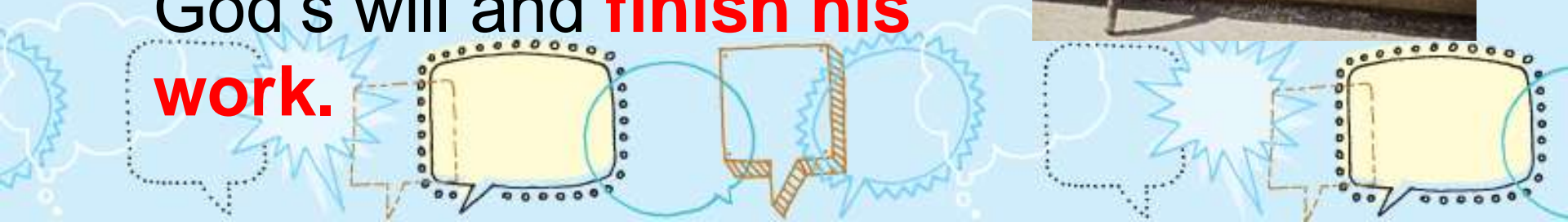
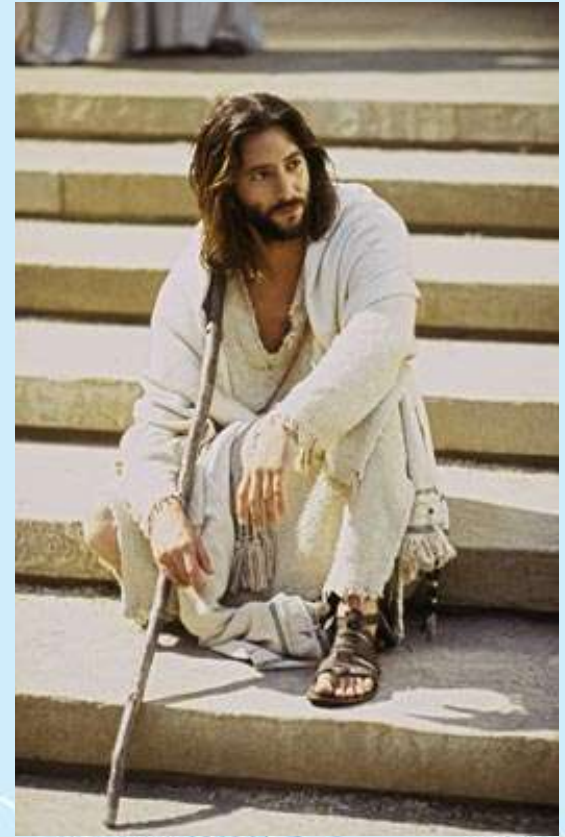
# Step 3: Pursue it with passion

**Disciples.** You need to eat something.

**Jesus.** I have food that you know nothing about.

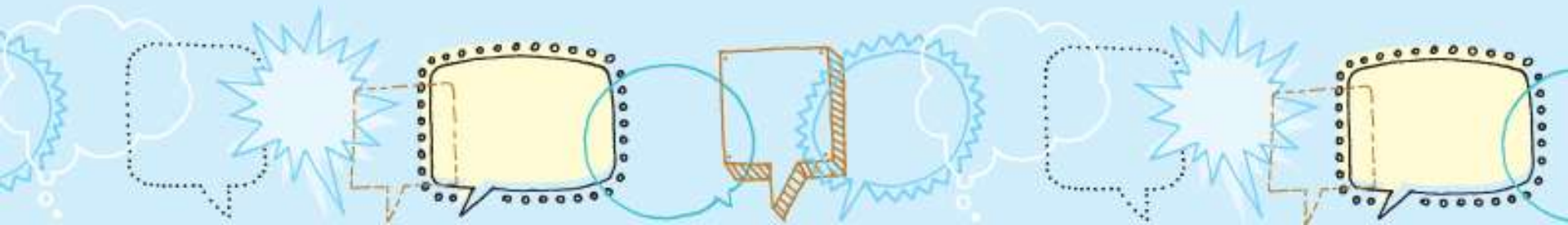
**Disciples.** So where did you get it?

**Jesus.** My food is to do God's will and **finish his work.**



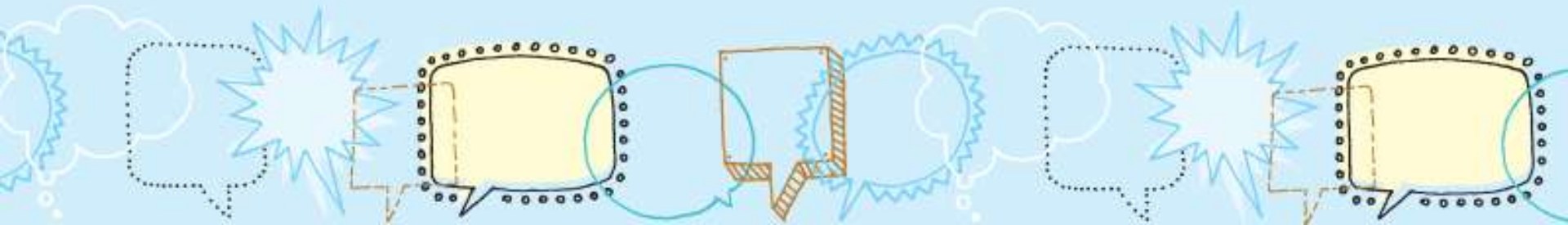
# Finishing **his** (not my) work

Interview clip



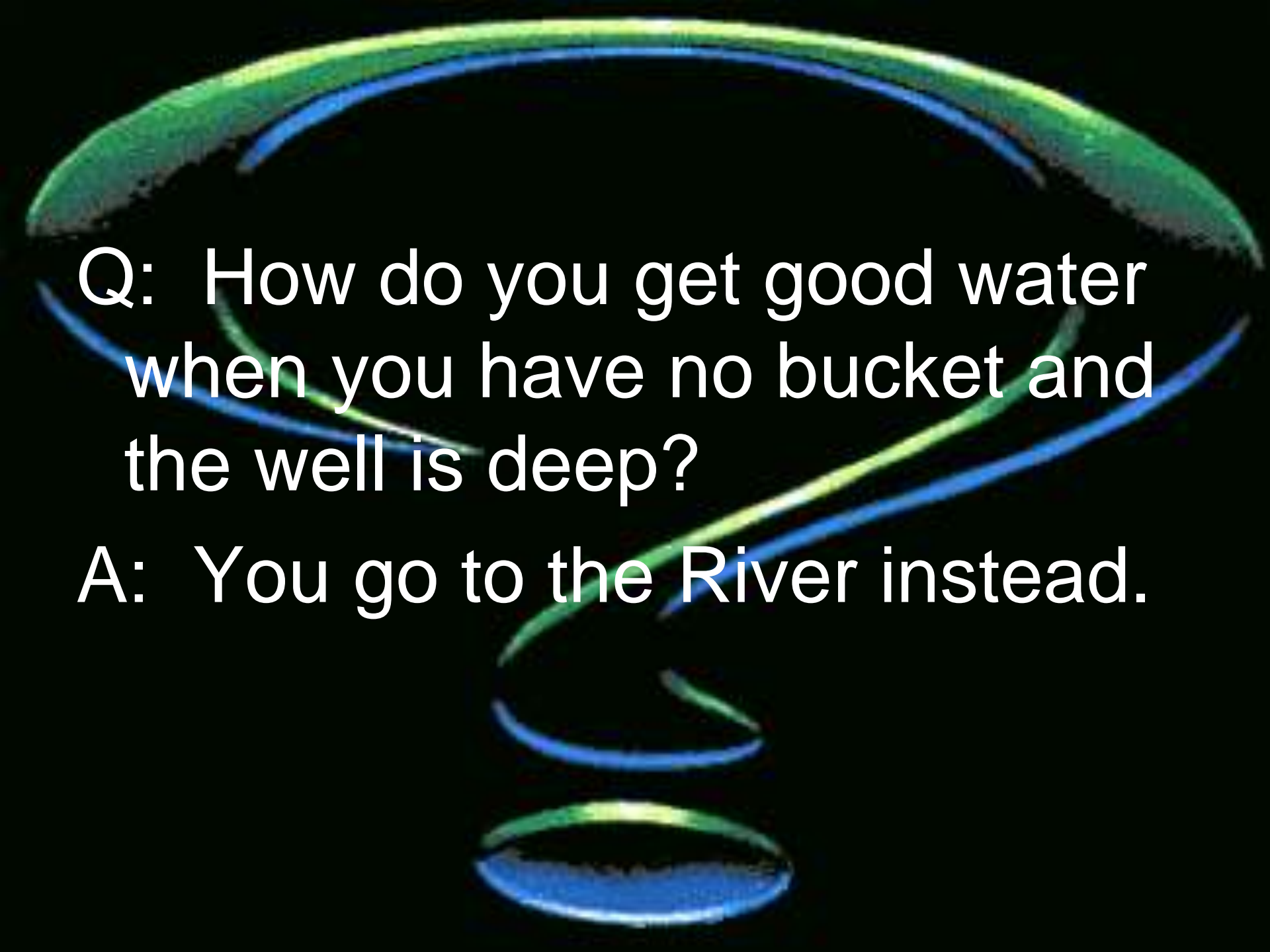
# Act 5: The Outcome

John 4: 39-42



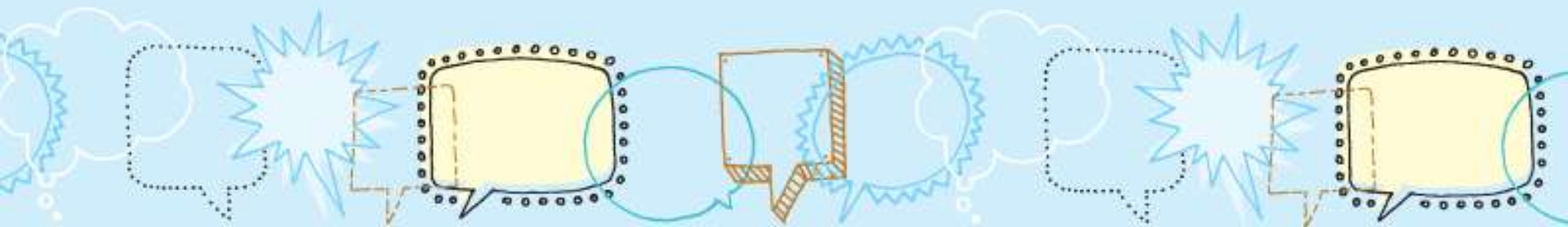
# The First Evangelist





Q: How do you get good water  
when you have no bucket and  
the well is deep?

A: You go to the River instead.



*“Spiritual formation experts would love to hear that students in my class are becoming like Jesus, but the test actually reveals the reverse: Students are fashioning Jesus to be more like themselves.”*



-Scot McKnight, “The Jesus We’ll Never Know”

