

## A Journey through Lent with Water to Thrive

February 25 - April 11, 2009

### What is Lent and why is Lent forty days long?

Lent is the forty-day-long liturgical season of fasting and prayer before Easter. It's the season in which we reflect on Jesus, his crucifixion, and ultimately the celebration of his resurrection. **Forty days** is a traditional number of discipline, devotion, and preparation in the Bible. Thus Moses stayed on the Mountain of God **forty days** (Exodus 24:18 and 34:28), the spies were in the land for **forty days** (Numbers 13:25), Elijah traveled **forty days** before he reached the cave where he had his vision (1 Kings 19:8), Nineveh was given **forty days** to repent (Jonah 3:4), and most importantly, prior to undertaking his ministry, Jesus spent **forty days in the wilderness praying and fasting** (Matthew 4:2).

Through a time of reflection and sacrifice, we have the opportunity to enter into the fellowship of Christ's suffering and identify more fully with those who are suffering around the world, especially those who live **without the most basic need, the need for safe clean water.**

Since Lent is a period of prayer and fasting, it is fitting for Christians to imitate our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with a **Forty Day period of Sacrifice.** Envision us all participating in the Journey through Lent. Imagine the difference we could make in **giving the gift of water.** Our Goal: **To change 40,000 lives during this season of Lent**

- **In rural Ethiopia 1 child in 10 die before their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday day, 50% from diarrhea.**
- **50% of the rural population suffers from water borne disease.**
- **80% of the world rural population don't have access to safe drinking water.**



### What difference can you make? I'm glad you ASKED!

It's really quite simple.

1. We all have things we spend our money on that are not necessary. **Choose one.** Give up Starbucks, soft drinks, movies, McDonald's, or any other **simple sacrifice** for the **40 days of Lent.**
2. Set aside the money you would usually spend on these things, and instead, allow these funds to change lives in need. **Ask family and friends to match your donation.**
3. At the end of Lent, send in your contribution to W2T. Feel free to also send us your personal story of "your journey through Lent."

Resources: Visit the following link for a Lenten Calendar; it can strengthen your walk with God and increase your faith during this season of reflection.

<http://web.archive.org/web/20060927212404/www.silk.net/RelEd/journeylent.htm>