



Tools to support community transformation

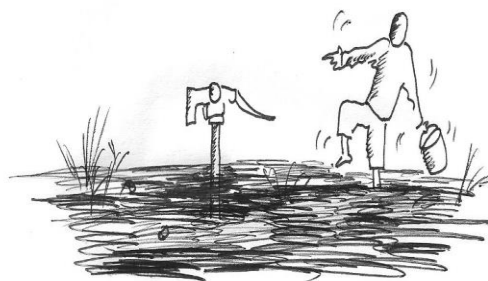
B REVEALING WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

Hygiene



Why use this Bible study?

This Bible study can help us explore some of what the Bible says about water and physical and spiritual cleanliness.



Cleansing, blessing and spiritual need

Read Leviticus 11:32-40 and 13:29-59. The Bible's main teaching about physical cleanliness appears in Leviticus 11-15. Some of the rules may seem strange and harsh to us. However, our modern understanding of how many diseases are transmitted shows other rules to be very sensible.

Read Philippians 2:4. The need for isolation and washing is often emphasised. Even today it may be difficult to distinguish between different types of infection and it may be better not to take chances.



Key points

- The Bible refers to physical cleansing and as symbolic for our spiritual cleansing and guides us in some of the ways we can prevent disease from being transmitted.



Questions for discussion

- What impact do our lives and hygiene practices have on others?
- How can we ensure that we consider the needs and interest of others first in terms of hygiene or cultural practices?
- Are others put at risk by our own poor hygiene? Is this a Christian attitude? (Philippians 2:4)



Notes

This Bible study was first published in Tearfund (2000) Footsteps 42 – *Focus on healthcare* http://tilz.tearfund.org/en/resources/publications/footsteps/footsteps_41-50/footsteps_42/bible_study/

Related tools

- A1 – Revealing sanitation: information for facilitators [A1: *Water, sanitation & hygiene-1*]
- B – Sanitation (Bible study) [B: *Water, sanitation & hygiene-2*]
- C2 – Choosing and building latrines [C2: *Water, sanitation & hygiene-4*]

Awareness-raising

Children & youth

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Discrimination & inclusion

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Migration & trafficking

Water, sanitation & hygiene