

Thirsty?

Key Scriptures: John 4:3-29

³ Jesus left Judea and set out once more for Galilee. ⁴ But he had to pass through Samaria. ⁵ Now he came to a Samaritan town called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, so Jesus, since he was tired from the journey, sat right down beside the well. It was about noon. ⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me some water to drink." ⁸ (For his disciples had gone off into the town to buy supplies.) ⁹ So the Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you— a Jew— ask me, a Samaritan woman, for water to drink?" (For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you had known the gift of God and who it is who said to you, 'Give me some water to drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ "Sir," the woman said to him, "you have no bucket and the well is deep; where then do you get this living water?" ¹² Surely you're not greater than our ancestor Jacob, are you? For he gave us this well and drank from it himself, along with his sons and his livestock." ¹³ Jesus replied, "Everyone who drinks some of this water will be thirsty again. ¹⁴ But whoever drinks some of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again, but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water." ¹⁶ He said to her, "Go call your husband and come back here." ¹⁷ The woman replied, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "Right you are when you said, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the man you are living with now is not your husband. This you said truthfully!"

TALK IT OVER

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- Have you ever gone out to buy something specific, then came back home and forgot to get it? (10 points extra if you went grocery shopping but left your groceries behind!)

Steps of faith: Reflect on your recent walk with Christ.

- Share with the group a step of faith you recently took.
- If you don't have a personal example, can you think of someone else's step of faith that has been encouraging or inspiring to you.

Reflect, Think, & Share:

- Read through the key scriptures and share any observations or questions with the group. Chose questions below to discuss.
- What are your thoughts about a person who has had five spouses and is living with a sixth?
- Sunday's sermon highlighted that the woman was "thirsty" for love, companionship, and belonging. In what ways can modern life leave us feeling similarly "thirsty"? How do we often try to satisfy these needs in unfulfilling ways? What does **Jeremiah 2:13** tell us about this?
- What do you think Jesus meant in saying "you worship what you do not know" in v. 22?
- What do you think it means to worship God in spirit and in truth (v. 23).
- Jesus offers the woman "living water" that quenches all thirst. What do you think this "living water" symbolizes in our lives, and how can we access it?
- The disciples were shocked to see Jesus talking to a Samaritan woman. What are some barriers in our society today that keep us from reaching out to certain people, and how can we break them?
- What does Jesus' willingness to converse with the Samaritan woman tell you about His view on the worth of individuals?

¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet.

²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you people say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."

²¹ Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You people worship what you do not know. We worship what we know, because salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But a time is coming—and now is here— when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such people to be his worshipers.

²⁴ God is spirit, and the people who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (the one called Christ); "whenever he comes, he will tell us everything." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I, the one speaking to you, am he."

²⁷ Now at that very moment his disciples came back. They were shocked because he was speaking with a woman. However, no one said, "What do you want?" or "Why are you speaking with her?"

²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar, went off into the town and said to the people,

²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Surely he can't be the Messiah, can he?"

Jeremiah 2:13 "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns-- broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Key Point: While we are all thirsting for many things, the only one who will satisfy us and truly quench these thirsts is Jesus.

- What do you think was the greatest tool the Samaritan woman had in “evangelizing” her town?
- **Impact of Testimony:** What role does personal testimony play in evangelism today, and how can we share our stories of faith with others? How has a personal encounter with Jesus transformed your life?

Start doing: Who can you purpose to have a “spiritual conversation” with this week? Who might be someone who you can be like Jesus and ask for a drink of water so you can have a conversation about deeper spiritual things?

Prayer Requests. It may be helpful to pray the scriptures back to God.

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