

The Woman at the Well

John 4:1-42



A Faith Worth Sharing A World Worth Winning

“Every one who thirsts, come to the waters” Isa 55:1
Psa 42:1-2; Psa 36:9; Jer 2:13; Jer 17:13

A. Introduction: A Divine Detour John 4:1-6
Jesus needed to go through Samaria: But WHY?

The Samaritans:

Only believed Gen-Deut.
Worshiped in Mount Gerizim not Jerusalem
Jacob not Abraham was their father

Where is our Samaria?
Jacob’s well is NO match for Jesus’ well.

B. The Process of Being Drawn to Faith!

1. Getting a persons attention John 4:7-9

Gal 3:26-29
Asking versus telling!

2. Creating thirst John 4:10-14

John 7:37-39

Salting the oats: Jesus gives an answer to the woman, but it’s not in response to the question she asked!

3. Appealing to need John 4:15-18

Rom 3:23 Rom 6:23

By asking the question that He did—Jesus is moving to the deepest need of the woman’s life—**forgiveness of sin!**

4. Offering hope and a solution! John 4:19-24

1 Cor 6:19-20

Worshiping in spirit and truth!

5. Trusting Christ as the answer! John 4:25-26

Jesus is the Messiah

6. Sharing the Good News John 4:28-30

She left her water pot but left empowered by God. All those she told came to see Jesus.

C. The Work of the Disciple (Evangelism)

John 4:31-38

Doing the will of God

The harvest example

D. Salvation Comes to Samaria John 4:39-42

Breaking ground for the Great Commission
The Savior of the World



Map Legend

1. Jerusalem
2. Samaria & Mt. Gerizim
3. Jordan River
4. Sea of Galilee
5. Mt. Tabor

The Titles of Jesus In John 4

- Jesus (4:6)
- Jew (4:9)
- Sir [Lord] (4:11, 15, 19)
- Prophet (4:19)
- Messiah (4:25)
- Christ (4:25, 29)
- I am (4:26)
- Rabbi (4:31)
- Savior of the World (4:42)

A Faith Worth Sharing: The Samaritan Revival—Lessons in Evangelism

A. Introduction: A Divine Detour 4:1-6

:1-3 It was time to take the ministry to Galilee from Jerusalem

:4 He needed to go through Samaria: But WHY? God's divine providence in working out His plan for salvation! Everything that Jesus did or experienced—He NEEDED TO!

The Samaritans and Jews: Goes back to 722 BC when Samaria was the capital of Israel and Jerusalem the capital of Judah. The Assyrians conquered Israel, the northern kingdom and repopulated the area with people from throughout their empire. The Jews started to intermarry with the new residents and started to modify their view of God.

What transpired over the succeeding years was a corrupted form of Judaism. The Samaritans rejected the prophets and all of the Old Testament except the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible (Gen-Deut).

The Samaritans built a temple on Mount Gerizim and rejected Jerusalem as the place where true worship was to take place. In 128 BC the Jews attacked Samaria, destroyed the city of Shechem and burned the Samaritan temple on Mount Gerizim.

The Samaritans favored Jacob as their forefather where the Jews looked back to Abraham.

→ Where is our Samaria? Are their people we would never want to talk to? Are their places that we would never want to go to? Are we really ready in season and out of season to GO where we are NEEDED?

We will see that as a result of what happened here—the Gospel will flourish in the book of Acts and be part of the fulfillment of the great commission.

:5-6 Jacob's well is NO match for Jesus' well. Wells were an important place in Biblical times. It was the one place you could look for a wife, as did Abraham's servant who asks Rebekah for a drink of water.

B. The process of being drawn to faith!

1. Getting a person's attention John 4:7-9

The key here is that Jesus DOES NOT tell the woman something that she needs to know—even though there are a lot of things she needed.

Instead of telling something—Jesus asks something—he asks for a drink! But he

knew that would be enough to get her attention—as we have seen already.

NOTICE: Jesus never answers the question of verse :9 “...how can you a Jew ask me...” The art of asking questions draws the other person out—or at least that is the goal.

There is a time for answers though and the answer to the woman’s question is given by Paul:

Gal 3:26-29 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

2. Creating Thirst John 4:10-14

Jesus does give an answer to the woman but it’s not to the question that she asked. Instead He tells her that SHE is the one who needs water and the WATER He has is superior to the water she has.

The move is from literal water to spiritual water.

Living water was a term that meant moving water—like a spring or stream.

Joh 7:37-39 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

3. Appealing to Need John 4:15-18

By asking the question that He did—Jesus is moving to the deepest need of the woman’s life—**forgiveness from sin!**

She chooses to conceal her sin by the way she answers. But Jesus drills right down to the real issue.

Joh 4:17 The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus *said to her, "You have correctly said, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly."

As we are sharing the Lord with someone—this is what the Holy Spirit is doing

in the background – convicting of sin.

Rom 3:23 ..for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

4. Offering Hope and a solution! John 4:19-24

I perceive that you are a prophet...this is progress in the right way!

Her sin is exposed and it's worthy of death—now she wants to know the answer to a spiritual question that can make the difference in how she responds—**WHO is right, the Samaritans or the Jews? In other words—what's the difference between Samaritan faith and Jewish faith.**

:23 Has “spirit” small “s” –this is our spirit which here means our heart (the heart of the warrior) and our mind. We no longer have to be in a place to worship because we will become the Temple Of The Holy Spirit! The new birth—when our spirit has been born again—we've been made alive.

:24 God is SPIRIT—the Spirit of God mingling with mans spirit—forum the place of worship, love communication, the rhema of the God's word.

1Co 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Truth—God's truth His word.

5. Trusting Christ as the answer! John 4:25-26

Jesus IS the Messiah

6. Sharing the Good News John 4:28-30

Left her pot behind: a lot of possible imagery with this.

This now empowered woman with a past persuades men to heed a Jewish Messiah! And that is a key component for today—when people accept Christ as their savior they are accepting a Jewish Messiah as their savior and Lord.

:29 Could this be the Christ? – Asked in the Hebraic manner!

:30 All those who heard her head out to find Jesus.

C. The Work of the Disciple (Evangelism) John 4:31-38

1. Doing the will of God :34

2. The example of the harvest :35-38

D. Salvation Comes to Samaria John 4:39-42

Breaking ground for the Great Commission

The Savior of the World

Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 8:5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them. The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the signs which he was performing.

Wow—John would have remembered the woman at the well...

Act 8:14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.

- Judah—Southern Kingdom (Judah)
- Issachar
- Zebulun
- Reuben
- Simeon
- Gad
- Ephraim
- Manesseh
- Benjamin—Southern Kingdom (Judah)
- Dan
- Asher
- Naphtali

Pre-Introduction:

The background to the entire passage is the Living Water—Jesus the Messiah.

- Psa 42:1-2 As the deer pants for the water brooks, So my soul pants for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God....
- Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.
- Isa 55:1 "Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; And you who have no money come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk Without money and without cost.
- Jer 2:13 "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns That can hold no water.
- Jer 17:13 O LORD, the hope of Israel, All who forsake You will be put to shame. Those who turn away on earth will be written down, Because they have forsaken the fountain of living water, even the LORD.