

THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:1-42

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God invites us to be a part of His story...He reaches out to people who are seeking for Him—then He loves to rescue us from sin, then empower us to share Him with people in our lives.

I. Seeking Jesus: Empty Pots, Empty Life

- Wounded
- Ashamed
- Thirsty

Point: We are much like this woman!

II. Meeting Jesus

- Jesus Pursues
- Jesus Offers
Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." **John 4:13**
- Jesus Reveals
 - Our Need
 - His Life

III. Sharing Jesus

- The Ultimate No Brainer
So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the town and were coming to him. **John 4:28-29**
- Satisfying Work
Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work." **John 4:34**
- Our Words/His Words
Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world." **John 4:39-42**

A simple way to share Jesus:

- * What has He done for you?
- * What words has He spoken that have brought you life?

For Further Study

1. **John 4:4** says that Jesus "had to pass through Samaria". There were other options for travel that Jesus could have taken, and that most people from the Jewish culture Jesus was born into would have taken. But Jesus "had to" meet this woman at the well. He not only crossed geographic boundaries, but He broke through ethnic boundaries (Jews and Samaritans didn't associate!) and gender boundaries (in Jesus' day men did not address women in public). Jesus pursued this woman at the well to share the message of God's love and forgiveness. Following this theme of how Jesus pursues us, look at these passages: **John 15:16; John 1:35-51; Luke 5:27-32; Luke 19:1-10**. When you look at your life, what are some examples of Jesus pursuing you? What boundaries did He cross to reach out to you?
2. When Jesus offered the woman at the well water that would well up to eternal life, He was lining Himself up with a biblical theme of God providing eternal life, symbolized by living water, rivers of water, and springs of water. See **Isaiah 55; John 7:37-39; and Revelation 22:17**. In your relationship with Jesus, what are some ways that He has quenched thirsts you have had in your life?

To Discuss... w/a friend, community group, or in a family devotional time

1. In what ways are we like the woman at the well?
2. How did Jesus pursue the woman at the well? What boundaries did He cross to extend God's message of love and salvation to her? How has He pursued you?
3. What boundaries exist in your life that keep you from extending the gospel to people in your life? (Are you isolated from people because of race? Culture? Religious background? Lifestyle issues?).
4. How did Jesus take the initiative to share the message of salvation with the woman at the well? As a group, talk about some ways you have initiated spiritual conversations with people, and talk about people in your life that God may be calling you to initiate a spiritual conversation with.
5. If you were given a chance to talk about what Jesus has done for you with someone this week, what would you say—what is your story of who you were before you met Jesus and who you are now?