

JESUS OFFERS LIVING WATER



John 4 v 5 - 42

Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman

5 So He came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as He was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

9 The Samaritan woman said to Him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water.”

11 “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?”

13 Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here

to draw water.”

16 He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.”

17 “I have no husband,” she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

19 “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

21 Jesus declared, “Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. 24. God is spirit, and His worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth.”

The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When He comes, He will explain everything to us.”

26 Then Jesus declared, “I who speak to you am He.”

The Disciples Rejoin Jesus

27 Just then His disciples returned and were surprised to find Him talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?”

28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?”

30 They came out of the town and made their way toward Him.

31 Meanwhile His disciples urged

Him, “Rabbi, eat something.”

32 But He said to them, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.”

33 Then His disciples said to each other, “Could someone have brought Him food?” 34 “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work. 35 Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. 36 Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. 37 Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. 38 I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.”

Many Samaritans Believe



39 Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in Him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” 40 So when the Samaritans came to Him, they urged Him to stay with them, and He stayed two days. 41 And because of His words many more became believers.

42 They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.”

Something to Do

A. Answer the questions from the story.

1. What feeling did Jesus have which show us He was also truly human? (verse 6) _____
2. What did Jesus say to the woman of Samaria? (7) _____
3. Why was she surprised that Jesus would speak to her? (9) _____
[The Samaritans were descendants of Jews and foreigners who had married Jews. They did not worship just the God of Israel but false gods as well. When the true Jews rebuilt their temple in Jerusalem, they would not allow Samaritans to help them. But Jesus was always interested in every individual person; He was interested in every person’s needs, even though it was not the custom for a Jewish man to speak to a woman in public.]
4. What would Jesus have given this woman if she had known to ask? (10) _____
5. What would be the difference between drinking the well water and drinking the water Jesus gave? (13 & 14) _____
6. What did Jesus know about this woman? (18) _____
[Jesus knows the secret sins of *each* of us.]
7. When Jesus pointed out her sin to her, what subject did the woman bring up? (20) She talked about the place where men ought to _____.
[Samaritans worshipped at their own temple on Mt. Gerizim. They believed in only the first 5 books of the Old Testament. Do you like to discuss “religion” instead of getting right with God?]
8. How do true worshippers worship the Father? (23) _____
[In order to worship God truly, we must be born of the Spirit.]
9. When the woman realised who Jesus really was, what did she do? (28, 29) _____
10. What satisfied Jesus just like food? (34) _____
11. Who did the Samaritans believe Jesus was? (42) _____

B. Memorize this verse: John 4 v 24

How Faith Grows

Isn’t it interesting to see how the woman of Samaria comes to know and believe more about Jesus the more He talks to her? **See verse 9.** She first recognizes Jesus as a Jew who had spoken to her kindly. **See verse 11.** Her respect rises, and she

calls Him, “Sir.” **See verse 19.** Jesus knew so much about her, she now thinks He must be a prophet. **See verse 29.** She now believes Jesus must be the Christ, the promised Messiah. The more we allow Jesus to talk

to us through the Bible, the more our faith in Him will grow, too! **“Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.” (Romans 10 v 17).**

What is Living Water?

The woman of Samaria thought it would be a wonderful thing if she did not have to lower her skin bucket down into Jacob’s well. The water level was 90 feet below. But Jesus was not talking about physical water. Jesus was talking about the

satisfaction He could give her to stop the continual thirst of her empty spirit for sinful pleasures. The **living water** He talks about is the gift of eternal life - His own life. The gushing spring is the **overflowing** joy and peace we can experience

when we are filled with His Holy Spirit! The woman wants the water, but first Jesus needs to prick her conscience. She must confess her sin and be **willing** to turn from it before she can receive living water from Jesus.

What This Story Teaches About Working for God

IEvery person needs to hear the gospel and believe in Christ for salvation. We should not treat anyone as an outcast, or unacceptable. Jesus didn’t. 2The spiritual “fields” of the world are ripe and ready to be harvested. We need to look up and see how

many people around us are hungry for the truth and ready to receive it. 3One person may sow (tell others about Jesus, give out literature, teach God’s Word). Another person may reap (actually introduce someone to Christ). We need to be willing to do either.

Both the one that sows **and** the one that reaps can have joy. 4Doing God’s will and **finishing** our work each day brings a satisfaction even more than food can give. 5Though it is important to **tell** our friends **about** Jesus, we also need to **bring them to Him** to **know Him for themselves.**