



# Believe

JOHN

MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

## Jesus and the Woman at the Well

Bible Reading: John 4:1-16

[Watch LIVESTREAM at 10am](#)

### I. Jesus' journey 4:1-2

### II. The Samaritan Issue

- A. Jesus "had to" go through
- B. Samaritans were despised by the Jews
  1. Mixed race – part Jewish and part Gentile
  2. Despised by both Jews and Gentiles
  3. They had the Pentateuch
  4. They had their own temple on Mount Gerizim, destroyed by the Jews 128 BC
  5. Their territory was part of what was given to the tribe of Joseph
  6. In this territory was the well of Jacob to which Jesus and the woman came
- C. Conflict like we see historically and today all over the world
  1. Europe, Northern Ireland, French/English in Quebec, Rwanda,
  2. Far east, history with Japan
  3. History between people often involves conflict, oppression
  4. Jesus is walking into that kind of environment
  5. How do you handle things like this?

### III. An unlikely encounter

- A. Jacob's well – in Samaritan territory, it is part of their ethnic pride and heritage
- B. At noon – not a normal time to come to get water – too hot
- C. Jesus alone with a woman – disciples gone

D. Not what it looks like – 4:27

#### IV. The dialogue/debate between Jesus and the Samaritan woman

- A. Jesus asks and she reacts – 4:7-9
  - B. Jesus replies and she challenges him – 4:10-12
  - C. Jesus replies again and she asks – 4:4:13-15
  - D. Jesus’ reply has a double meaning – 4:16
- 16? “Go call your husband,” he told her, “and come back here.”
- 1. Indicates he knows everything about her
  - 2. Desires to reach all the Samaritans, not just her

#### V. Comparing Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman

- A. Two different people with two narratives
  - 1. These 2 accounts are purposely put side by side

Nicodemus	Samaritan Woman
Male	Female
Named	No name
High rank with honour	Low rank and despised
Pure Jew	Mixed
He was seeking Jesus	Jesus was seeking her
Came to Jesus at night	Met Jesus at noon
Proud of his standing	Proud of her heritage “our father Jacob”
Doesn’t understand	Doesn’t understand
Representative of Pharisees	Representative of Samaritans

- B. Her positive response (which we will see later) gives hope to non-Jews
- C. What might be considered as low status is ignored

#### VI. Four Questions

- A. What is the Gift of God? – The Spirit
- B. Who is the one who asks for a drink?
- C. What is the living water? –the gift of God, the Spirit
- D. How does one obtain the living water? – by believing
  - 1. By believing that Jesus is the Saviour of the world – 4:39, 41-42

#### VII. Conclusion

- A. Fast forward for what is coming:
- B. Jesus broke down barriers in order to give the gift of God to everyone so they could have eternal life