

- ii. She asked for Living Water and now He has given it to her... by revealing Himself to her.

IV. The Mission and the Bride (4:27-42)

- A. Why did John choose to tell us what they did not ask?
- B. She leaves her water jar.
- C. A Good Example for Evangelism
- D. A Conversation Between Jesus and the Disciples (31-38)
- E. It's time for the wedding.

LIVE THE STORY

The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community. The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

- How does John describe the people who are going to Jesus to be baptized? How does he describe Jesus? (See 3:27-36.)
- In light of what John the Baptist says in 3:22-36, why do you think Jesus had to leave Judea in 4:1 and go to Samaria? (Consider how, if at all, 2:4 and 4:23 may inform this answer.)
- What promise does Jesus make to the woman at the well? What does her request in 4:15 mean in regard to this? How does Jesus fulfill this promise? Does he make the same promise to us today?
- How does the Samaritan woman provide an example of evangelism to those who know you? Can you apply this in your own life?
- Does the idea of “living water” have any previous reference in scripture? If so, how might it inform what Jesus is saying in John 4?
- What does it mean to worship in spirit and truth?
- Does this account of Jesus meeting a woman at the well have any OT parallels? How might those inform our expectations in this account?

The Word Became Flesh (9) A Groom and a Woman Without a Husband

Jerry Cisar — February 12, 2017

Text: John 3:22 – 4:42

I. Jesus Had to Go Through Samaria (3:22-4:4)

- A. Why is everyone going to Jesus?
 - i. Everyone who goes to him is described as:
 - a) “*what is given him*” (27)
 - b) “*the bride*” (29)
 - ii. Jesus is described as:
 - a) becoming “*greater*” (30)
 - b) “above all” (2x in v31)
 - c) the “*bridegroom*” (3x in v29)
- B. Jesus had to go somewhere else too!
 - i. In 2:4, His hour had not yet come; in 4:23 it “now is.”
 - ii. Why did Jesus *have to* go through Samaria?

II. A Well, a Woman, and a Promise (4:5-15)

- A. “*Find a Bride at a Well*” Stories
 - i. The groom-to-be travels to another country, encounters a girl at a well, then one or the other of them draws water from the well, after which the girl rushes home to tell everyone about him, followed by their wedding.
 - ii. Jesus' asks is the same question (slightly less verbose) which Abraham's servant asked Rebekah.
- B. The Samaritan Woman
 - i. Why did she arrive at noon?
 - a) Contrast with Nicodemus (3:20-21)

- b) Nicodemus was the most likely candidate for entering the Kingdom, she is the least likely candidate.
 - ii. We are not told her name.
- C. Woman's 1st Response (9)
- D. Jesus' 1st response is about her need. (10)
 - i. Jesus says that had she asked for Him for living water He would have given it to her.
 - ii. There is a promise in those words.
- E. The Woman's 2nd Response
 - i. She is curious.
 - ii. *"Are you greater than our father Jacob?"* (12)
- F. Jesus 2nd response (13-14) is about His ability to meet her need.
 - i. How will this living water make a person never thirst?
 - ii. Does "living water" have any Old Testament background?
 - a) Ezekiel 47:1-12
 - b) *Previously in John's Gospel...*
 - Jesus is God tabernacled among us (1:14)
 - He is the new House of God (1:51)
 - His own body will be the resurrected temple (2:21)
- G. The Woman's 3rd Response (15)
 - i. She asked Jesus for living water.
 - ii. How will Jesus give her the Living Water?

III. Jesus Gives Living Water (4:16-26)

- A. Jesus makes another request (16).
- B. Woman's 1st Response (17)
- C. Jesus' 1st Response is about her real need. (17b-18)
 - i. We do not know *why* she has had 5 husbands.
 - ii. We do know that she was now living with a man.
 - iii. She needs a husband. All she's got is a anemic substitute.
- D. The Woman's 2nd Response (19-20)
- E. Jesus' 2nd response is about His ability to meet her need. (21-24)
 - i. One day this question about which mountain to worship on will be meaningless. But it isn't meaningless yet. (21)
 - ii. Right now, you worship out of ignorance, Jews have the knowledge of the truth. (22)
 - iii. (23): A time is coming, and oh, BTW, it now is...
 - a) John 3:34
- Thompson: *"It would . . . seem odd if in conversation with the Samaritan woman Jesus were to urge her to 'look within,' as it were, for the strength and capacity to offer true worship. . . . True worship is ...a reorientation of one's worship through and in the presence of God in the living temple, Jesus, and in the realm of the Spirit."*
- F. The Woman's 3rd Response (25)
- G. Jesus Gives Her Living Water (26)
 - i. *"I am—the very one speaking to you."*