

SERMON-BASED STUDY: WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:1-26, ESV – Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John ²(although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples), ³ he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. ⁴ And he had to pass through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷ A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ 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." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet." ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Notes:

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QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we learned that to minister means to attend to the needs of another. How did Jesus attend to the needs of the Samaritan woman?
- 2 What social norms did Jesus break in order to minister to this woman? What lessons can we learn from His example?
- 3 Jesus was also ready to minister whenever and wherever God directed. How can we be better prepared to minister like Jesus did? What hinders us from ministering to others?

DIGGING DEEPER

A *Hebrews 13:1-3, ESV – Let brotherly love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.*

1 Peter 4:8-10, ESV – ⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

- 4 Looking at the passages above, we see that Christians are called to show hospitality to fellow believers and strangers. Why is it important to show hospitality to everyone?
- 5 How is hospitality linked with ministering to the physical needs of others?
- 6 How can ministering to the physical needs of others create an opportunity to meet their spiritual needs as well?

B **Matthew 5:14-16, ESV** – ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Colossians 3:16-17, ESV – ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

7 What does Jesus mean when He says, “You are the light of the world”? How do we “shine our light before others”?

8 How can a Christian’s good works be a means for another person to put their faith in Christ? Does this mean Christians do not have to verbally share the gospel with people? Explain.

9 How is “teaching and admonishing one another” ministering to our spiritual needs? Why must we rely on the Word of Christ when ministering to others?

TAKING IT HOME

Ministering to the needs of others can happen in a variety of ways at any time and any place. These needs can be physical and spiritual. While it is important to attend to the physical needs of others, it is of great importance to attend to their spiritual needs. Jesus is the only one who can fully minister to a person’s spiritual needs. How are you doing trusting in Jesus for your own needs? How are you doing with pointing others to Him for their needs? Share with your group or accountability partner what God has been showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to rely on Jesus for your needs and to be light in the world, pointing others to Him.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 20:25-28
Romans 12:1-2
Hebrews 1:14