

John 4 Jesus Goes to Galilee

So then, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that He was making and baptizing more disciples than John ² although Jesus Himself was not baptizing; rather, His disciples *were*, ³ He left Judea and went away again to Galilee. ⁴ And He had to pass through Samaria. ⁵ So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph; ⁶ and Jacob's well was there. So, Jesus, tired from His journey, was just sitting by the well. It was about ¹the sixth hour.

The Woman of Samaria

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." ⁸ For His disciples had gone away to the city to buy food. ⁹ So the Samaritan woman said to Him, "How *is it that* You, *though* You are a Jew, are asking me for a drink, *though* I am a Samaritan woman?" For Jews do not associate with Samaritans. ¹⁰ Jesus replied to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

¹¹ She said to Him, "Sir, You have no bucket and the well is deep; where then do You get *this* living water? ¹² You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well and drank of it himself, and his sons and his cattle?" ¹³ Jesus answered and 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 shall never be thirsty; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up to eternal life."

¹⁵ The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water so that I will not be thirsty, nor come *all the way* here to draw *water*." ¹⁶ He ^{*}said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here." ¹⁷ The woman answered and said to Him, "I have no husband." Jesus ^{*}said to her, "You have correctly said, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this *which* 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, and *yet* you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one must worship." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Believe Me, woman, that 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, because salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But a time is coming, and even now has arrived, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks *to be* His worshipers.

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 that One comes, He will declare all things to us." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am *He*, the One speaking to you." ²⁷ And at this point His disciples came, and they were amazed that He had been speaking with a woman, yet no one said, "What are You seeking?" or, "Why are You speaking with her?"

²⁸ So the woman left her waterpot and went into the city, and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done; this is not the ^[L]Christ, is He?" ³⁰ They left the city and were coming to Him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat *something*." ³² But He said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples were saying to one another, "No one brought Him *anything* to eat, did he?"

³⁴ Jesus ^{*}said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to accomplish His work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'There are still four months, and *then* comes the harvest'? Behold, I tell you, raise your eyes and observe the fields, that they are white for harvest. ³⁶ Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the one who sows and the one who reaps may rejoice together. ³⁷ For in this *case* the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you have not laboured; others have laboured, and you have come into their labour."

The Samaritans

³⁹ Now from that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all the things that I have done." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to Jesus, they were asking Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. ⁴¹ Many more believed because of His word; ⁴² and they were saying to the woman, "*It is* no longer because of what you said *that* we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One truly is the Savior of the world."

⁴³ And after the two days, He departed from there for Galilee.

⁴⁴ For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honour in his own country. ⁴⁵ So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, *only because* they had seen all the things that He did in Jerusalem at the feast; for they themselves also went to the feast

Healing an Official's Son

⁴⁶ Therefore He came again to Cana of Galilee, where He had made the water *into* wine. And there was a royal official whose son was sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and *began* asking *Him* to come down and heal his son; for he was at the point of death.

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you *simply* will not believe." ⁴⁹ The royal official said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." ⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, "Go; your son is alive." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went *home*. ⁵¹ And as he was now going down, his slaves met him, saying that his son was alive.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

1. What questions were provoked within you?
2. Did anything confuse you?
3. Did anything move you emotionally?
4. Did God instruct you to do something?
5. Did you gain any insight into God's character?

Paul's observations and insights

1. Interesting Jesus didn't baptise anyone but his disciples did.
2. Jesus came to the Samaritan nation but the Samaritan's were at odds with the Jews over ethnicity.
3. Jacob was a shepherd and dug wells, thousand of years later they were still drinking from them.
4. Jesus is already resting at the well and the Samaritan woman came as usual to draw water.
5. Jesus broke protocol with this Samaritan woman by talking to her, a woman and a Samaritan!
6. Jesus was alone, the disciples had gone to buy food from the Samaritans despite the social conflict.
7. Jesus asked/told the woman 'give me a drink'. That does not happen, yet here it is.
8. She herself is confused by this breach of social etiquette.
9. His response is 'if you knew the gift of God and who it is giving you a drink, you would say to Him'.
10. Until we know who He is we won't ask Him for what He has.
11. Jesus says 'and He would give you living water'. What is living water?
12. Relying on her natural senses - He has nothing to draw water from the well - so living water can't come out of this well.
13. She is struggling to understand who Jesus really is and compares Him to Jacob.
14. Natural water is one thing, living water is another, Jesus is saying.
15. Living water will, in itself, become its own source of refreshment and the way to eternal life.
16. She is persuaded, 'I need this living water' she says, 'that you can give me'.
17. Why did Jesus get personal regarding this woman's relationship history?
18. Why did He not judge her regarding the many husbands she had had?
19. Jesus is operating in the word of knowledge, and it draws the woman from carnal thinking regarding water, into a spiritual conversation regarding life and reality.
20. She doesn't deny what He reveals, but she does get defensive and distracts the conversation regarding her frustration with the division with Samaritan and Jewish thinking on religious matters.
21. 'Enough of that woman', is Jesus approach, 'God will raise up, in the end, true worshippers and they will be those who worship in spirit and truth'.
22. It is in the knowing that makes true worshippers because not knowing brings confusion and uncertainty.
23. God is seeking true spirit and word worshippers. Are you one?
24. God is spirit and connects with our spirit, He comes to live in us, that is relationship.
25. She had heard about the Messiah coming, she knows that God is sending a saviour into the world.
26. The disciples return and are perplexed that Jesus had been conversing with a Samaritan who is a woman!
27. The woman decides to leave in haste, even forgetting her pot of water. She goes into the city and becomes a witness of Jesus.
28. She invites the people of the city to come and see Jesus and ask the question 'might He be the Christ, the Saviour?' The city accept the invitation and come to Jesus.
29. What did Jesus mean by the statement 'I have food to eat you know nothing about'?
30. Jesus said 'food for me is to do the will of God'.
31. What were the signs of the harvest that Jesus wanted the disciples to see with new eyes?
32. The Kingdom of God established, is when God's people work together to gather.
33. Salvation had come to the Samaritan city because of the woman, but more because of the word that Jesus spoke.
34. Jesus stays in the city for two days speaking the Kingdom of God stuff.
35. What is it for a prophet to receive honour?
36. Whoever receives Jesus, receives God.
37. An important man appears in the chapter, he came to Jesus to receive healing for his son from death.
38. Jesus is offended that all the people want are signs in order for them to believe, and yet, He still brings the child healing.
39. The way He carried out this miracle was to speak the child alive, he says, 'your child will live'.
40. The slave's testimony confirms to the important man it was at that time his son got well.