

John 4.1-42

“Water Welling Up to Eternal Life!”

Focus of our Study of John: How does Jesus share the Good News with Others?

Ch 1 – Calls Followers, who Must Call Others > Ch 4 HOW to DO the Calling?

1st Jesus Models how to Call Her/ 2nd She follows His Model 2 Call her Village

Ch 3 > Jesus talks to MAN > DID NOT GET IT > Men Never Do!? RIGHT!

John 4 > 2nd Interview w/ WOMAN > Many DIFFERENCES Between them

1. Witness for God

a. Available > MAIN Reason people NOT COME to Jesus > NOT INVITED

v. 6 Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. = 12 NOON Mid-day Heat SUN: Jesus God & MAN

Hot, Tired, Thirsty Time to THINK About SELF, Jesus thinks of OTHERS??!

Jesus loved her and was prepared to breach age-old conventions to reach her. Our failures in evangelism are so often failures in love. Nothing is so guaranteed to draw others to share our *living water* than an awareness that we genuinely care about them. Bruce Milne

b. Vulnerable > Great HATRED between JEWS and SAMARITANS

WOMAN Probably HASSELED by Jesus own Disciples: Just PASSED HER

Samaritan, Woman, Loose Morals Stand Aside as Holy, Jewish Men GO BY

When they Come Back > QUITE SHOCKED their Master talking to HER!

v. 7 Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” > HE NEEDED HER HELP

NOW Woman has MAN SHE CAN DUMP her ANGER & HURT ON

v. 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?”

Sometimes when we SHARE @ Jesus > OPENS FURY of Hurt FEELINGS

A ‘Christian’ Relative Hurt Them / Pastor who Shamed Them / Church Failed

c. Relevant Jesus Speaks Her Language > Knows her DEEPEST DESIRES

v. 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.”

Uganda DRY SEASON: Hired Young Girls to HAUL Water, Nearby Spring

NO FUN! Hard Work – ESP to this SOCIAL OUTCAST in MID-DAY HEAT!

TODAY in WORLD > 2 Billion People Limited Access to CLEAN WATER

>> JESUS is as NECESSARY for Spiritual Life as WATER for Physical Life

Jesus Exposes Her Spiritual Desert: Invites to Drink from Wells of Salvation

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. Isaiah 12.3

d. Confrontational Unpopular SUBJECT > SIN > Socially Unacceptable

Jesus treats this Woman w DIGNITY & RESPECT > UNDERSTANDING

Probably HIDING by Coming for Water in HEAT OF DAY > NOT SHAMED

v. 16 Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”

Confronts & Calls > Admit your SIN > BRING IT TO ME > Come Back

17 "I have no husband," she replied. NO More Long SPEECHES, ie. Jacob

Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.” > Many Lovers & Leavers > Many Left Lonely & SAD

e. Patient Jesus Did not PICK Green Fruit > NO FORCED CONVERSION

19,20 “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mtn, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.”

Some Claim > Woman is Changing Subject of Sin > Over Psychologizing

Perhaps > Knows She is a SINNER > WHERE can I FIND a SAVIOR?

EITHER WAY > That is WHERE Her Mind is AT > DIGNITY of Listening

NOT JUST CANNED ANSWERS and SLOGANS > REAL DIALOGUE

f. Glad Tidings > DECLARATION is BASIS of INVITATION

v. 26 Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.” > LIT. ‘I AM’

JESUS Openly Reveals Himself > UNLIKE Other Places where SILENCES

Here in Remote Samaria > They Can KNOW HIM NOW > God has Come

2 Questions – Who is Jesus? What did He do?

We preach Christ crucified...Christ the power of God & the wisdom of God 1 Cor 1.23,24

Woman Grows in Understanding: Stranger, Jew, Prophet, Messiah, God

2. Worship of God

a. God’s Way > Woman hears PROPHET, Now NEEDS a PRIEST

v 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did" Deep Conviction

vs. 19,20 The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship”

750 years before Conversation Northern Half of Jewish Nation > to Assyria
 Some Jews Remained in Nation of Israel > a.k.a. 'Samaria', name of Capital
 Jews who Remained > Intermarried with Assyrians, others > Unforgivable
 Compromised Jewish Blood, Beliefs, and Behavior > Forfeited Covenant

450 B.C. > Southern Kingdom Returned from Babylon > Rebuilt Temple
 Samaritans > Considered themselves Jews > Offered to HELP BUILD
 Jews in Judea > Refused Samaritan Help for New Temple > Defiled Gifts
 Then Samaritans built THEIR Own TEMPLE: Mt. Gerizim in SAMARIA

Jews DESTROYED Samaritan Temple in Second Century B.C.

Woman's Legitimate Question: Where Can I Go to Meet God? Forgiven?

v. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

Salvation always only by Grace: Old & New Covenant > NEVER Merit

ATONING SACRIFICE > Only ACCEPTABLE WAY TO GOD

b. By the Spirit v. 24 "God is Spirit" Omnipresent – Worship Everywhere

1) Holy Spirit word in text is can be **either** Holy Spirit, or our spirit: BOTH!

The Spirit gives life John 6.63

We who *worship by the Spirit of God*, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh... Philippians 3.3

HOLY Spirit Necessary: Repentance, Faith, Prayer, Praise, Proclamation

2) our spirit WORD 'spirit' ALSO REFERS TO OUR SPIRIT

Both are Needed – Holy Spirit MUST EMPOWER & ENLIVEN US

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me...grant me a willing spirit to sustain me...My sacrifice O God is a broken spirit

HANANI the SEER said to ASA KING of JUDAH The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth, to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. 2 Chronicles 16.9

True Worship: our 'spirit' Connects & Communes w/ God who is Spirit

As long as you notice, and have to count the steps, you are not yet dancing but only learning to dance. A good shoe is a shoe you don't notice. Good reading becomes possible when you need not consciously think about eyes, or light, or print, or spelling. The perfect church service would be one we were almost unaware of; our attention would have been on God.

C.S. Lewis

c. Through the Son TRUE BIBLICAL WORSHIP - IS TRINITARIAN

"worship the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in Spirit and Truth"

1) Truth Incarnate Samaritan Woman LOOKING for the MESSIAH

THE ONE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD - DESIRE OF NATIONS

v. 26 Jesus "I AM": Fullness of Deity Made Flesh - TRUTH Incarnate

...grace and truth came through Jesus Christ John 1.17

Jesus answered, "I am the way and *the truth* and the life. John 14.6

People Avoided this Woman: Jesus LOVED HER > Made HER CLEAN

2) Truth Inspired v. 19 "Sir, I can see you are a prophet"

Spokesman for GOD - MESSENGER OF THE WORD OF GOD

3) Truth Exclusive "I am...the truth...no one comes to Father but by me" 14.6

BLAIRAPHRASE v. 22 "Salvation is through THIS Jew"

World is Full of Sincere Worshippers - Devout - MANY RELIGIONS

Admire their Fasting, Devotion: Works of CHARITY > HUMILITY

Jesus alone is Truth > All Else HUMAN INVENTION > Cannot Save

All we do in WORSHIP Should MEASURE Up to this STANDARD

DO PEOPLE UNDERSTAND "Kum Bah Yah, My Lord, Kum Bah Yah"

Seen People w TEARS in their EYES WITHOUT a CLUE

John's CONCLUSION: 'this man really is the Savior of the world' John 4.42

c. Global Offer NOW Salvation NOT about Geography > Only GRACE

Preach X among other Non-Christian Religions > Sensitive and Understanding

Jesus WELL AWARE of Samaritan Thinking > Spoke Woman's 'Language'

v. 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.

But Jesus not Propose Samaritan Religion as Acceptable Preparation

Paul did not Invite Athenians to Follow their PHILOSOPHY to Find Jesus

Elijah does NOT tell BAAL Worshippers they are on the RIGHT ROAD

Being Devout SAMARITANS Did not make them MORE READY for Jesus

Samaritan Religion = LIE, Perversion of God's REVEALED TRUTH

Only Preparation was to REPENT of their SAMARITAN IDEAS

GOD offers Salvation to World: HE ALONE is AUTHOR & FINISHER
 John NOT ANTI-SEMITIC > Salvation is from Jews > World Saved by a JEW
 In Judah God is known; his name is great in Israel. Psalm 76.1

Becoming FOLLOWER of JESUS > Become what we are CREATED TO BE
 COMPLETE Chinese, Kazakh, American, African, Asian, Latin, Islander
 NOT thru False Religion: Need CONVERTED Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim
 Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam > Man-Made Religions > NEVER GOD'S WAY

JESUS NEVER MENTIONS Anything on MAN'S LIST to this Woman
 To Jesus she's NOT Anonymous, UnEducated, Immoral, Despised, Poor
 Her ONLY PROBLEM NOT Know WAY TO BE SAVED > Need's Message
 Jesus Eager Anticipation of HIS FINISHED WORK > CERTAINTY
 v. 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.

VERY SOON > Jewish Temple will be HEAP of RUBBLE
 God Begins the Destruction > TEARS thick Curtain of MOST HOLY PLACE
 Jesus @ Final High Priest offers Final & Full SACRIFICE for Sins of WORLD
 Sacrifice's Finished > Priesthood is Closed > Temple is Destroyed

Same Apostle John > Revelation : I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God
 Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. Revelation 21.22

Today you can come boldly to the throne of grace through Jesus Christ and find grace to help
 your need. You do not have to make a pilgrimage to present your sacrifice. You do not need
 to change your race. All that you have to do is abandon your efforts at salvation and come
 alone by faith in Him who declared Himself to be the way the truth, and the life. James Boice

3. Witness to God

Woman follows same Method of Jesus to Reach Village

a. Available > Time to THINK About SELF, Woman thinks of OTHERS!

v 29 'Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?'

Imagine Life of Pain that she lived in that Small, Talkative, Judgmental Town

She became more Afraid FOR them than OF them > Compassion of Christ

v. 35 Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes & see the fields are white for harvest.

b. **Vulnerable** > v. 39,40 Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.

All the Town talked about Her Sins > Now she rejoices in their Removal

WOMAN Probably HASSELED by Jesus own Disciples: Just PASSED HER

Samaritan, Woman, Loose Morals Stand Aside as Holy, Jewish Men GO BY

When they Come Back > QUITE SHOCKED their Master talking to HER!

What would happen if we Christians let this Stranger teach us about reaching out in our neighborhoods and in our places of work? Becoming transparent and open, being less imperialistic and arrogant and more humble and real in our approach to people.

Roger Fredrikson

c. **Good News** > Town needs to Meet the Jesus the Woman has Met

vs. 41,42 And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

Psalm 93 The Lord reigns; // **he is robed in majesty**; // the Lord is robed; // **he has put on strength as his belt**. // Yes, the world is established; // **it shall never be moved**. // Your throne is established from of old; // **you are from everlasting**. // The floods have lifted up, O Lord, // **the floods have lifted up their voice**; // the floods lift up their roaring. // **Mightier than the thunders of many waters**, // mightier than the waves of the sea, // **the Lord on high is mighty**! // Your decrees are very trustworthy; // **holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore. Amen and Amen.**