

John 4:5-29 ESV

How are YOU like the Samaritan Woman?

Jesus Loves SINNERS!

Services: Sunday, 3/19 at 8:00 & 10:45 + Monday, 3/20 at 7 PM

Church Year: Third Sunday in Lent – 2017

Wednesdays of Lent: Services at 11 & 7; Meals at 12 & 6

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: Today, *as we hear Jesus encounter the woman at the well in John chapter 4*, let us consider how we are LIKE the Samaritan woman: ✨sinful, ✨despised, and ✨hopeless; then, let us be like her by ➡rejoicing in Jesus and ➡telling others the good news!

1. **Setting**: ⁵ So [Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well [spring] was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, [sat] beside the well [spring]. It was about the sixth hour. // It was about 6 PM; Jesus was in Samaria, tired, alone, and seated by a well.
2. **She Desired What Jesus Offered**:
 - a. 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.) // Why? Because Samaritans were *part Jew and part Gentile*; that happened 700

years earlier: *When the northern kingdom of Israel fell Gentiles were moved in among the remaining Israelites, eventually they intermarried. But Jesus, knowing she was ♣a Samaritan, ♣a woman, and ♣a sinner, He still showed her respect and kindness! Let us do the same!*

- b. 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 [in other words, *spiritual life*; but the woman was thinking physically as Jesus was speaking spiritually].”**

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 [οὐ μὴ – certainly not] be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up [springing 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.” // Even though the woman did not fully understand what Jesus meant, *she desired the living water!* Is God’s gift of spiritual life important to YOU? When we engage in spiritual conversations, *do we explain God’s eternal blessings in a desirable way?***

3. **She was Honest with Jesus:** 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. // Jesus knew all about the woman – not because He did an investigation of her life, *but because He is the Son of God in human flesh!* He also knows everything about you and me – what we say, what we do, and even our deepest thoughts and private secrets! The woman was honest with Jesus; she made no excuses. *Let us also be honest!*

4. **She Wanted to Learn from Jesus:**

- a. ²⁰ **Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you [y'all Jews] 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.”** // When it comes to worship, *location is not important!* Also, Jesus said, “*salvation is from the Jews,*” in other words, *God has revealed His truth to the Jews,* not to others; everyone needs God’s truth!
- b. 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.”** // True worship is both subjective – *tied to our personal feelings,* and objective – *tied to God’s Word of Truth!*

- i. In spirit / subjective: We MUST BE personally engaged – ✦listening, ✦thinking, ✦believing, and ✦speaking. “Omit the spirit, and though you have the truth, the worship becomes formalism, mere ritual observance” (Lenski, 323).
 - ii. Truth / objective: Our worship MUST BE based on God’s Unchanging Truth – ✦not on relative truth, ✦not on personal thoughts or desires. “Omit the truth, and though the whole soul is thrown into the worship, it becomes an abomination [*thus, not pleasing to the LORD, but disgusting*]” (ibid.).
5. **She Told Others About Jesus:** ²⁷ Just then his disciples came back [with the food]. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” [*Maybe the disciples even ignored the Samaritan woman.*] ²⁸ So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹ “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” // The Bible tells us that many believed because of the woman’s testimony, *and many others believed when they heard the very words of Jesus!* She met the Christ – *and she was excited!* ✦Have you met Him, ✦do you know Him, ✦are you excited to have God’s gift of eternal life? Let’s tell others about Jesus!

Conclusion: Let us pray: Dear Father, as the Samaritan woman was an outcast to many, *so we should be outcasts to You, yet, amazingly, You have saved us through Jesus!* Now, *make us compassionate toward others!* In Jesus’ name, we pray...