

TALK IT OVER

Read John 4:1-42 (Passage is on 2nd page. This is from The Message version. Feel free to use or read from your own Bible/app.). Once you've read the passage ask these questions:

- What new thing did you discover in the story that you did not know before?
- What did you learn about God? (Why do you think Jesus HAD to go through Samaria? Why did he choose a 5x's divorced Samaritan woman to reveal who he was? What did Jesus mean about food they didn't understand?)
- What did you learn about people? (Why would the woman react like she did? What about the disciples? The other villagers? How are we the same today? Different?)
- What will you take away from this discussion? (What was the response you had to Jesus? Have you responded to Jesus? How does Jesus' interaction with this woman change your perception of him? If it doesn't why? Does it change how you see others? How?)
- What will you do with what you have learned? (Joe said Jesus doesn't care about your past, he cares about your response. So what is your next step? If they haven't taken What's Next encourage them to text the word "Next" to 352-575-3521 description below. If you haven't gone through it you should this November. That way you can personally recommend it to your group. Does anyone need to respond to Jesus tonight? Be ready to lead them in prayer and talk with them about baptism and what it means. Brad also walks through all of this in What's Next.)
 - What's next? Is a three-week group lead by Pastor Brad on Sunday evenings where you learn more about Shift and what the next steps for you to discover your purpose and make a difference with your life. Brad will walk you step by step on what's next for your spiritual journey. You can register by texting Next to 352-575-3521.
- Is there anything else you wanted to share that we didn't hit in this discussion?
- Next week make sure to read Genesis 4. Think through the questions we ask weekly as you read.

Make sure to check in with your SG this week. How can you pray for them? This is where the discipleship aspect comes in. Work towards identifying your 3 (that you can really pour into) and then your 1 (that person that will replicate what you're doing now). Take a few minutes each day and make a text or phone call to everyone in the group.

Jesus doesn't care

John 4

TALK IT OVER

Make sure to read ahead of time and either retell the story or have someone (multiple people) help you retelling the story. Make sure to use your update with points from Joe's sermon.

John 4 ¹⁻³ Jesus realized that the Pharisees were keeping count of the baptisms that he and John performed (although his disciples, not Jesus, did the actual baptizing). They had posted the score that Jesus was ahead, turning him and John into rivals in the eyes of the people. So Jesus left the Judean countryside and went back to Galilee.

⁴⁻⁶ To get there, he had to pass through Samaria. He came into Sychar, a Samaritan village that bordered the field Jacob had given his son Joseph. Jacob's well was still there. Jesus, worn out by the trip, sat down at the well. It was noon.

⁷⁻⁸ A woman, a Samaritan, came to draw water. Jesus said, "Would you give me a drink of water?" (His disciples had gone to the village to buy food for lunch.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman, taken aback, asked, "How come you, a Jew, are asking me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" (Jews in those days wouldn't be caught dead talking to Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered, "If you knew the generosity of God and who I am, you would be asking *me* for a drink, and I would give you fresh, living water."

¹¹⁻¹² The woman said, "Sir, you don't even have a bucket to draw with, and this well is deep. So how

are you going to get this 'living water'? Are you a better man than our ancestor Jacob, who dug this well and drank from it, he and his sons and livestock, and passed it down to us?"

¹³⁻¹⁴ Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again and again. Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life."

¹⁵ The woman said, "Sir, give me this water so I won't ever get thirsty, won't ever have to come back to this well again!"

¹⁶ He said, "Go call your husband and then come back."

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ "I have no husband," she said.

"That's nicely put: 'I have no husband.' You've had five husbands, and the man you're living with now isn't even your husband. You spoke the truth there, sure enough."

¹⁹⁻²⁰ "Oh, so you're a prophet! Well, tell me this: Our ancestors worshiped God at this mountain, but you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place for worship, right?"

²¹⁻²³ "Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you Samaritans will worship the Father neither here at this mountain nor there in Jerusalem. You worship guessing in the dark; we Jews worship in the clear light of day. God's way of salvation is made available through the Jews. But the time is coming—it has, in fact, come—when what you're called will not matter and where you go to worship will not matter.

²³⁻²⁴ "It's who you are and the way you live that count before God. Your worship must engage your spirit in the pursuit of truth. That's the kind of people the Father is out looking for: those who are simply and honestly *themselves* before him in their worship. God is sheer being itself—Spirit. Those who worship him must do it out of their very being, their spirits, their true selves, in adoration."

²⁵ The woman said, "I don't know about that. I do know that the Messiah is coming. When he arrives, we'll get the whole story."

²⁶ "I am he," said Jesus. "You don't have to wait any longer or look any further."

²⁷ Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked. They couldn't believe he was talking with that kind of a woman. No one said what they were all thinking, but their faces showed it.

Jesus doesn't care
John 4

TALK IT OVER

²⁸⁻³⁰ The woman took the hint and left. In her confusion she left her water pot. Back in the village she told the people, "Come see a man who knew all about the things I did, who knows me inside and out. Do you think this could be the Messiah?" And they went out to see for themselves.

It's Harvest Time

³¹ In the meantime, the disciples pressed him, "Rabbi, eat. Aren't you going to eat?"

³² He told them, "I have food to eat you know nothing about."

³³ The disciples were puzzled. "Who could have brought him food?"

³⁴⁻³⁵ Jesus said, "The food that keeps me going is that I do the will of the One who sent me, finishing the work he started. As you look around right now, wouldn't you say that in about four months it will be time to harvest? Well, I'm telling you to open your eyes and take a good look at what's right in front of you. These Samaritan fields are ripe. It's harvest time!

³⁶⁻³⁸ "The Harvester isn't waiting. He's taking his pay, gathering in this grain that's ripe for eternal life. Now the Sower is arm in arm with the Harvester, triumphant. That's the truth of the saying, 'This one sows, that one harvests.' I sent you to harvest a field you never worked. Without lifting a finger, you have walked in on a field worked long and hard by others."

³⁹⁻⁴² Many of the Samaritans from that village committed themselves to him because of the woman's

witness: "He knew all about the things I did. He knows me inside and out!" They asked him to stay on, so Jesus stayed two days. A lot more people entrusted their lives to him when they heard what he had to say. They said to the woman, "We're no longer taking this on your say-so. We've heard it for ourselves and know it for sure. He's the Savior of the world!"