

TALK IT OVER

How did everyone's action step/s go this week? What progress did you make? (We want to shepherd our few really well. Hold people accountable to what God is calling them to but do so out of love.)

Read John 4 (Passage is on 2nd page. This is from The New Living 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? (Knowing how much Jews hated Samaritans and vice versa why do you think Jesus "had" to go through Samaria? Why would God use this woman of all people? What does Jesus' response to the woman say about his character? Why do you think God's focus for us is on people and not platforms?)
- What did you learn about people? (Do you feel like an influencer? Why/why not? Before Pastor Brad explained influencer what did you think it meant? What came to mind? Do you agree with Pastor Brad- are you an influencer? If you're not already how can you be an influence for Christ? Read Matthew 5:13-16 What do you think it means to be salt and light? Practically?)
- What will you take away from this discussion? (What did you learn about yourself this week? Do you feel like an influencer now? Why/why not? How does the value God has placed in you feed the influence you have? How does knowing how valuable you are influence your influence on others?)
- What will you do with what you have learned? (How can you be an influence for Jesus? What are some practical steps you need to take now? Do they align with what you needed to do for last week? Have everyone name what they need to do and, along with the steps from last week, keep track. Message/text/call them through the week to see how it's coming. Be their cheerleader!)
- Is there anything else you wanted to share that we didn't hit in this discussion?
- Next week make sure to read Luke 9:1-20. 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.

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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 Brad's sermon.

John 4 New Living Translation (NLT)

Jesus^[a] knew the Pharisees had heard that he was baptizing and making more disciples than John² (though Jesus himself didn't baptize them—his disciples did).³ So he left Judea and returned to Galilee.

⁴ He had to go through Samaria on the way. ⁵ Eventually he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. ⁷ Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Please give me a drink." ⁸ He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food.

⁹ The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans.^[b] She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?"

¹⁰ Jesus replied, "If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water."

¹¹ "But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket," she said, "and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water?" ¹² And besides, do you think you're greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well? How can you offer better water than he and his sons and his animals enjoyed?"

¹³ Jesus replied, "Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. ¹⁴ But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life."

¹⁵ "Please, sir," the woman said, "give me this water! Then I'll never be thirsty again, and I won't have to come here to get water."

¹⁶ "Go and get your husband," Jesus told her.

¹⁷ "I don't have a husband," the woman replied.

Jesus said, "You're right! You don't have a husband—¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certainly spoke the truth!"

¹⁹ "Sir," the woman said, "you must be a prophet. ²⁰ So tell me, why is it that you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place of worship, while we Samaritans claim it is here at Mount Gerizim,^[c] where our ancestors worshiped?"

²¹ Jesus replied, "Believe me, dear woman, the time is coming when it will no longer matter whether you worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans know very little about the one you worship, while we Jews know all about him, for salvation comes through the Jews. ²³ But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. ²⁴ For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

²⁵ The woman said, "I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶ Then Jesus told her, "I AM the Messiah!"^[d]

²⁷ Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked to find him talking to a woman, but none of them had the nerve to ask, "What do you want with her?" or "Why are you talking to her?"

²⁸ The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, ²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me

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everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?"³⁰ So the people came streaming from the village to see him.

³¹ Meanwhile, the disciples were urging Jesus, "Rabbi, eat something."

³² But Jesus replied, "I have a kind of food you know nothing about."

³³ "Did someone bring him food while we were gone?" the disciples asked each other.

³⁴ Then Jesus explained: "My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent me, and from finishing his work."³⁵ You know the saying, 'Four months between planting and harvest.' But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe^[e] for harvest.³⁶ The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life. What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike!³⁷ You know the saying, 'One plants and another harvests.' And it's true.³⁸ I sent you to harvest where you didn't plant; others had already done the work, and now you will get to gather the harvest."

Many Samaritans Believe

³⁹ Many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus because the woman had said, "He told me everything I ever did!"⁴⁰ When they came out to see him, they begged him to stay in their village. So he stayed for two days,⁴¹ long enough for many more to hear his message and believe.⁴² Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not just because of what you told us, but because we have

heard him ourselves. Now we know that he is indeed the Savior of the world."

Jesus Heals an Official's Son

⁴³ At the end of the two days, Jesus went on to Galilee.⁴⁴ He himself had said that a prophet is not honored in his own hometown.⁴⁵ Yet the Galileans welcomed him, for they had been in Jerusalem at the Passover celebration and had seen everything he did there.

⁴⁶ As he traveled through Galilee, he came to Cana, where he had turned the water into wine. There was a government official in nearby Capernaum whose son was very sick.⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged Jesus to come to Capernaum to heal his son, who was about to die.

⁴⁸ Jesus asked, "Will you never believe in me unless you see miraculous signs and wonders?"

⁴⁹ The official pleaded, "Lord, please come now before my little boy dies."

⁵⁰ Then Jesus told him, "Go back home. Your son will live!" And the man believed what Jesus said and started home.

⁵¹ While the man was on his way, some of his servants met him with the news that his son was alive and well.⁵² He asked them when the boy had begun to get better, and they replied, "Yesterday afternoon at one o'clock his fever suddenly disappeared!"⁵³ Then the father realized that that was the very time Jesus had told him, "Your son will live." And he and his entire household believed in Jesus.⁵⁴ This was the second miraculous sign Jesus did in Galilee after coming from Judea.