

What Marriage Can't Do

Marriage Matters

Discussion Questions

- **On a scale of 1-10 how satisfied are you with your family life?**
 - Think in terms of emotional, relational, physical, and spiritual satisfaction—how are you really doing in your marriage?
- **Read John 4:3-7.**
 - In the sermon we saw this is written in the pattern of an ancient Jewish marriage story:
 - Journey to a foreign land
 - Woman at the Well
 - Draw Water
 - Good News is Shared
 - Hospitality is Offered
 - Joining of Families (Marriage)
 - How does John show us this story is going to be about marriage?
- **Read John 4:9-15.**
 - Jesus starts by describing the difference between well water & living water. Well water meets some needs, but living water would satisfy all of her needs.
 - What begins as a conversation about her physical needs quickly becomes a spiritual conversation (living water that wells up into eternal life). How does the woman respond to Jesus's offer for living water?
- **Read John 4:16-18.**
 - Why does Jesus turn so quickly to talking about marriage?
 - What needs is this woman trying to satisfy in men? How's that going for her?
 - How does marriage compare to well water?
(Meets some needs, but not our deepest needs.)
- **In the sermon we saw that "Marriage cannot do what only Jesus can do."**
 - How do some people seek satisfaction in marriage (or dating relationships) in ways that can't ultimately satisfy?
 - What are the deep needs we all have that only Jesus can satisfy?
 - Marriage isn't designed to satisfy all our needs. Marriage is a well. It doesn't have the depth or capacity to fully satisfy.
 - Consider again your emotional, relational, physical, and spiritual needs. What needs should a spouse help meet and what are the deep needs that only Jesus can meet?
- **Read John 4:25-29.** How does the woman at the well respond to the message of good news?
 - Instead of this story ending in marriage (union between man & wife), we see a better union (God & man).
- **How can you practically apply this to your marriage (or closest relationships)?**
 - What conversations do you need to have with a spouse or friend to pursue satisfaction in Christ instead of someone else?

- **If our identity is first in Christ, how should a spouse love or serve the other in response to their gospel identity?**