

Sunday Centerpoint

Key Takeaways:

1. Jesus is for everyone - He doesn't conform to cultural barriers or social norms that exclude people from experiencing Him.
2. We often want Jesus to conform to us - But transformation requires us to be changed to look and think like Him, not the other way around.
3. Worldly pursuits never satisfy - Only Jesus can truly quench our spiritual thirst.
4. Encountering Jesus changes you - When you experience Christ, what you used to care about becomes trivial, and you start caring about what He cares about.
5. Experience over information - It's not enough to just learn about Christ; we must experience Him in relationship.

Discussion Questions:

1. Cultural Barriers: Jesus crossed multiple cultural boundaries to speak with the Samaritan woman (gender, ethnicity, religious differences). What does this teach us about who Jesus is for and how we should view others?
2. Timing Matters: Why do you think the woman came to draw water at noon instead of in the cool morning with other women? What does this tell us about her life situation?
3. Living Water: The woman initially misunderstood Jesus when He spoke about "living water." Have you ever misunderstood what God was trying to tell you? Share that experience.
4. Worldly Thirst: Jason mentioned the C.S. Lewis quote: "an ever-increasing craving for an ever-diminishing pleasure." What are some things in our culture that fit this description? Have you experienced this personally?
5. What Are You Chasing?: Jesus confronted the woman about what she had been pursuing (relationships/love through five husbands). What are some things—good or bad—that people pursue instead of Christ? What might you be tempted to pursue?
6. Transformation: The woman left her water jar and went back to the town she had been avoiding. When you encountered Jesus, what changed in your life? What no longer seemed important?
7. Learning vs. Experiencing: The sermon emphasized the difference between learning about Christ and experiencing Him. How would you describe the difference? Which do you tend to do more?
8. Urgency: Jesus demonstrated urgency in sharing the gospel with this woman. Do we live with that same urgency? Why or why not?

Practical Applications:

1. Take time to honestly identify what you've been "thirsting" after besides Christ. Journal about this.
2. Like Jesus crossed cultural lines, identify someone you normally wouldn't engage with and initiate a conversation or act of kindness
3. Instead of just reading about prayer, spend extended time in prayer
4. Instead of just studying service, go serve someone in need
5. Like the woman at the well, share with someone what Christ has done in your life.
6. Make a list of what takes up most of your time, energy, and thoughts. Ask "Am I pursuing these things more than I'm pursuing Christ?" Make one concrete change to reorder your priorities.

