HE IS

EASTER AT CROSSPOINTE

LEADER'S GUIDE WEEK 1



### **WEEK ONE**

### WATCH

Make sure everyone can see the screen and the audio is at a comfortable level.

### READ

Take some time in advance to read and consider the Bible study questions and come up with personal examples to encourage discussion.

### **DISCUSS**

We hope those who participate in the study walk away knowing, feeling, and doing differently as a result of amazing discussion.

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### **BIG IDEA**

Anastasis. In science, it refers to "a natural cell recovery phenomenon that rescues cells from the brink of death." (NIH.gov) In the Greek language, it means raising up again, or rebirth. But for those who follow Christ, it means resurrection! This is the same word Jesus used when He raised Lazarus from the dead in John 11. Jesus had allowed Lazarus to die in order that He could reveal more of Himself to those who believed in Him. In speaking with Martha, He said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live." (John 11:25)

After Jesus raised him from the dead, Lazarus shared the good news of what Jesus had done with everyone around him. Even when he faced threats of being put to death, Lazarus chose to stand firm and follow Christ. He continued to share the life-giving message of Christ as the Resurrection and the Life! We have the same responsibility today. There are many problems in the world in which we live. The only solution to these problems is Jesus! As followers of Christ, we must go and tell others about our encounter with Jesus, the Savior of the World.

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John 4:28-42; Psalm 40:8-10

### **OPENING**

What stood out to you from the message this week? What led you to really think? Did anything challenge you?

What comes to mind when you think of the word urgent? What makes these things urgent?

### WATCH

Make sure everyone can see the screen and the audio is at a comfortable level.

What jumped out at you from the video in this session? What are some of the key points that affected you more than others?

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### READ

Read John 4:28-30

As we begin, we see Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well. We don't know her name, only that she was not considered worthy of anyone's attention. Not only was she a Samaritan and a woman, but she was also considered immoral because of her many divorces and her present live-in partner, to whom she wasn't married. And yet Jesus pursued a life-changing relationship with her!

After her encounter with Jesus, we find that the woman ran into town, leaving her water jar behind. What does this reveal about the impact Jesus had on the woman?

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(While she had come in need of water, she was so
excited after her experience with Jesus that she
left it behind. She now had Living Water that was
so much more than just the well water to drink. She
also planned on returning to the well after she went
to town, bringing with her those she told about
Jesus, the source of Living Water she had found.
He had completely changed her life, and she was
no longer worried about the opinions of others; she
wanted them to experience Jesus for themselves.)

How	W	ould	you	des	cribe	you	r life	bef	ore	me	eting
Jesus	?	How	did	you	come	to	know	and	follo	W	Him?
How I	ıa	s you	r life	cha	ngeds	sinc	e follo	wing	g Him	1?	

(Open for discussion)

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Read John 4:31-38	NOTES
When the disciples returned from town with Jesus' meal, they were a bit perplexed with what they observed between Jesus and the woman, as well as why Jesus was no longer concerned about the food they had brought for Him.	
What things in your life have taken a place of "urgency" for you? Are they healthy? Explain.	
(Open for discussion.)	

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### Jesus used this opportunity to teach the disciples about the spiritual harvest that leads to eternal life. What did Jesus tell them? How does this apply to us today? Explain.

(Jesus tried to explain to His disciples that He no longer needed the physical food because He was fulfilled by doing God's work, which was the spiritual nourishment that had been shared with the woman at the well. They struggled to go from the earthly, physical realm to the spiritual realm. Jesus reminded them that there was work to do where they were. As we look at our lives today, we need to remember that, while our physical needs and responsibilities are important, they are not as important as the work God has for us to do. This work is more than just praying, reading the Bible and going to church! We must make sure that we use every opportunity God provides to share Him with others!)

"Seek	your	life's	nourishment	in	your	life's	work.'
(Philli	ps Br	ooks)					

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Why	is it	importa	nt for	us	to re	mem	ber	that	we	may
SOW	while	e others	reap,	, or	that	we	ma	y re	ap	what
othe	rs hav	ve sown?								

(God uses each person in a different way. We all have different tasks in doing His work. While we may not see the final results of our efforts, we must remember that we are only responsible for the tasks He gives us to do. We must be faithful to do His work, trusting that He will finish what we have started for Him.)

#### Read John 4:39-42

How did the woman at the well illustrate her understanding of the harvest Jesus talked about? What can we learn from her response?

(The woman at the well didn't know much in the form of spiritual truth, but she was eager to go immediately and tell others what she did know! God used her testimony to reach many people and to lead them back to Jesus to learn more. We must remember that we are never alone when we are doing God's work! Our time is not wasted when we are obedient to Him.)

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What are some of the excuses we use for not sharing our testimony? How can we fight these attacks aimed at keeping us from sharing Christ with others?

(Open for discussion. It takes faith to step out and tell others about Christ. Even when it seems discouraging, we must take heart! It isn't our job to "save" or convert people. We can only share our own personal testimony of what He has done in our lives and the truth He has revealed to us. The rest is between them and God.)

What was Jesus' passion? Is it your passion? What will it take for your passion to be like His, to do the work of the Father?

(Jesus' passion was to do the will of God and to finish His work. Jesus didn't see the ministry God had given Him as a chore or a burden. He was satisfied knowing He was doing the work God had called Him to do. As the Samaritan woman encountered Christ, she had a change of heart and mind! She was a living, breathing testament of new life in Christ. As we encounter Christ and allow Him to change us, then He is able to work in and through us to do His work. Open for discussion.)

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The Samaritan woman had been redeemed by Jesus
Christ, and she wanted to tell everyone about it! As
we allow Him to work in our own lives, it will
become evident to those around us, and just as the
Samaritans, they will begin to notice and want to
know the Savior of the World for themselves!

### **DIGGING DEEPER**

Read Psalm 40:8-10

David was known as "a man after God's own heart." What does he reveal as his main desire in this Psalm? How can we follow David's example in our own lives to help us do God's will?

(Despite what he encountered in life, David chose to surrender fully to God's will and was committed to doing what God instructed. As a result, he had a heart that was willing to obey God's instruction and guidance. When we are fully surrendered to Him and delight in His will, it affects our will, too! Our "wants" change and we desire and pursue the things of God rather than the things of this world.)

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How	did	David	respond	to	God's	provision	and
salva	tion?						

(Much like the woman at the well, David was overcome by God's provision of grace and mercy, and he was eager to share it with all who would listen. He could not contain himself and keep silent about all God had done!)

We have seen through the lives of Jesus, the woman at the well, and even David, what it looks like when one is committed to doing God's will. As a result of their faithfulness, people were drawn to the God Who Saves, the Savior of the World. What about you?

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### **PRAY**

Consider the following as you pray together:

- Do you find delight in doing the will of God? Are you willing to be a bold witness of His grace and mercy to those who don't know Him? Or are you more concerned about the worries of the world around you?
- What unique work has God given you to do? How can you use what He has given you to be involved in sowing and reaping the harvest all around us?
- We are surrounded by many people who do not have a personal relationship with Christ. Who needs to hear your testimony of God's faithfulness and salvation?

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