

# Church doesn't have to be complicated.

## onechurch bigIdea small group discussion

Ownership provides privilege, pride, freedom, and a sense of responsibility. When you rent, you don't get those same feelings, because it isn't yours. We rag out things that aren't ours, but we take responsibility when we're the owner.

There's a principle there. Something happens when you feel ownership. You no longer act like a spectator or consumer, because you're an owner. Faith is at its best when it's that way too. It's best lived when it's owned.

**Simple.**

**BIG IDEA:** When you're an owner, you no longer act like a spectator or consumer.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever borrowed something that wasn't yours and ragged it out, or brought it back worse than you found it? Tell the group.
2. Have you ever rented a car and treated the rental car badly? Do you believe most people treat rental cars badly? Why or why not? Would you ever buy a used rental car? Why or why not?
3. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read John 4:4-42.* When you were growing up, who were the people you were told not to associate with? What part of your city would you be warned about?
4. Where was the 'watering hole' in your hometown where everybody went to hang out?
5. As someone taught from birth to despise the Samaritans, how would you feel when Jesus decided to go through Samaria instead of taking the long way around?
6. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read John 4:4.* Why did Jesus *have* to go through Samaria? What was it that compelled Him to go through Samaria?
7. Chris said, "We have to see people like Jesus saw people." How does Jesus see people? How do we tend to see people? What do we base our judgments on?
8. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read John 4:7.* Why is it unusual that this woman would draw water at noon—the hottest part of the day? Who was she trying to avoid? What emotions were driving her to collect water at noon?
9. Think of Jesus as a modern-day pastor. Would Jesus be risking His reputation to talk to her? Why or why not?
10. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read John 4:10.* What was Jesus' request of this woman? How did she respond? How did Jesus turn the tables on her in verse 10?
11. Why does Jesus change the topic of conversation so abruptly to her personal life in verse 16? What strikes you about the way He responds to her claim not to have a husband?
12. Chris said, "We have to be willing to get uncomfortable." What do you think he meant by that statement?
13. We can shoot the breeze and talk about nothing to people with no problems. Why do you think it is so uncomfortable to talk to people about God or invite them to church?
14. What is significant about Jesus choosing this woman as the first person to whom He revealed Himself? (see also 4:39-42)
15. If Jesus were to stop by the 'watering hole' where you hang out, what would He probably ask you right now?

## THINK ABOUT IT

Chris said, “Members have rights; Owners have responsibilities.” Isn’t it true that we treat things we own a bit differently than things that aren’t ours?

## WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Chris said, “God has never called people and God has never called His church to step back—He has always called us to step up and make a difference.” How can you move from being a spectator or consumer at oneChurch.tv to becoming an owner? Serving on a team? Taking a step and getting into a community group? Sacrificially give your finances so we can reach more people than ever before who need Jesus?

## CHANGING YOUR MIND

*The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, “Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?” So the people came streaming from the village to see him. John 4:28-30*

# Simple.