

Talk About It

Small Group Discussion Guide

The Way of Wonder

Week 1

August 3 - August 6, 2023

Start Talking

Share about a time when God did something that completely shocked you - leaving you in awe and wonder.

Main Idea

Pastor Ken began a new series, "The Way of Wonder" this week. During this series, we will journey together to personally experience the awe and wonder of God like never before. Pastor Ken encouraged us to lean into this process and believe with him that our lives will be changed over the next several weeks. Are you ready? This week we looked at our personal life story in light of the story in the Bible, the woman at the well.

Personalize It

1. Recap or reread John 4:1-30. Pastor Ken said, "There are some truths in life you cannot simply accept, you must discover for yourself". Do you agree? Disagree? Why? What truth did the woman at the well need to discover for herself?
2. What were the "scandalous" things Jesus did to reach the woman? What would be considered scandalous today if Jesus were to do this? Share a personal example or one you know about when someone did something "scandalous" to share Jesus with you or someone else.
3. What role do you think compassion, love and grace may have played to help break down the walls for this woman to believe and discover Jesus?
4. Do you agree that this story is what John 3:16 looks like? How did that impact you? Christianity, is not predominantly a theology to be discussed, but rather a love to be lived. How have you seen this play out in your life and the lives of others?
5. Jesus broke down barriers and built bridges by speaking truth into the woman's life she could not even see at the time. What barrier does Jesus need to break down in your life and what truth do you need to accept and discover today? What is holding you back?
6. Pastor Ken said, "When it comes to Christ and thriving in the life of His design, the DISCOVERY is not complete until the overwhelming DESIRE TO SHARE with others overflows." Who do you need to share Jesus with? Have you truly discovered for yourself a personal relationship with Jesus? If so, are you sharing Him?

Pray

Jesus, thank You for the many ways You have superseded our expectations. We acknowledge the wonder of Your love for us. Focus our hearts and minds this week on sharing this wonder with those in need around us. Open our eyes to the isolated. Grant us the courage to love like you loved the woman at the well and how you love each of us every day. Amen.

Scripture

"Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe, and they praised God, exclaiming, 'We have seen amazing things today!'" Luke 5:26 (NLT)

"Who is like you among the gods, O LORD— glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, performing great wonders?" Exodus 15:11 (NLT)

"Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure his greatness." Psalm 145:3 (NLT)

"Jesus knew the Pharisees had heard that he was baptizing and making more disciples than John (though Jesus himself didn't baptize them—his disciples did). So he left Judea and returned to Galilee. He had to go through Samaria on the way. Eventually he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Please give me a drink.' He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food. The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, 'You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?'"

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he." Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the town and were coming to him. John 4:1-30 (NLT)

Teaching Notes

The Way of Wonder What is the Way of Wonder? August 3-6

In Scripture, often, after an experience with God, the Bible will say they were filled with a sense of awe, wonder, amazement, they marveled...

Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe, and they praised God, exclaiming, "We have seen amazing things today!" NLT Luke 5:26

"Who is like you among the gods, O LORD— glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, performing great wonders? NLT Exodus 15:11

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A passage of Scripture records a conversation.... Jesus and a particular woman at a well

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Two Scandalous, shocking things happening here...

- Jew talking with a Samaritan...
- A man talking with a woman in public...

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Dual-layer conversation
Conversation turns personal

Jesus' eyes.... Eyes filled with compassion and love opened her heart...

True worshippers worship in spirit and in truth...

She left her water jar...

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