

John 4:1-30 – 8 March 2026

“Why Are You Talking To Me?”

Introduction

*In 1st year of His ministry, Jesus has been baptizing around Jordan & was drawing the Pharisees attention

Read 4:1-4

1. Jesus’ goal is to S.H.A.R.E. the message of entrance into the Kingdom to all that’ll receive it
 - a. He knows that the Pharisees won’t receive it – so it’s a waste of time to stick around Judea
 - b. Yet He knows the Samaritans will receive it
2. To go from Judea to Galilee, they would never go thru Samaria – they would always go around
 - a. They hated the Samaritans as half-breeds
 - b. They insulted people by calling them Samaritans & possessed of a devil (John 8:48)
 - c. This is why the Parable of the Good Samaritan was so offensive to a Jew

3. Yet Jesus says He *must* go thru Samaria
 - a. He's finishing His 1st year (of preparation)
 - b. He's entering His 2nd year (of popularity)
 - c. It's not time for His 3rd year (of opposition)

Read 4:5-6

1. This city is Shechem – a very well documented city of Samaria in the OT (aka Nablus today)
 - a. The Jews called it Sychar meaning *drunken*
 - b. Part of 'Israel' during the divided Kingdom
 - c. After the foreign captivities of God's people, it was repopulated by a mixed Jewish people who began a mixed Jewish religion (II Kin 17:24-41)
2. The sixth hour is high noon

*As if soliciting an opportunity for people to know Him...He waits.

*This encounter is a great model for evangelism

Today, we'll see 5 steps to S.H.A.R.E. Christ Jesus

#1 – Start with standard conversation (Vs 7-9)

Read 4:7-9

1. Jesus often begins w/ a natural object to bridge to spiritual matters (water, light, seed & soil)
 - a. We need to get used to engaging people and then transition to the spiritual
2. She says, ‘Why are you talking to me?’
 - a. In her mind it’s said w/ division & derision
 - b. In Jesus’ mind it’s done w/ great intention
 - c. We need to set spiritual goals for our interactions with others
3. Jesus knows her & *set up this situation specifically for her* to be given the chance to be saved by the Messiah
 - a. We’ll see soon that he knows her life well
 - b. Jesus got weary right at the time and place needed to interact with her – imagine that!
 - c. He even sent His disciples away for a while to allow her to open up and be vulnerable

#2 – Highlight the heavenly (Vs 10-12)

Read 4:10-12

1. Now Jesus intentionally appeals to the spiritual
 - a. It's polite: He wants to give you good things
 - b. It's precise: He wants to reveal Jesus to you
 - c. It's powerful: He wants to give eternal life
2. Just like with Nico, Jesus wants to talk about spiritual things, but they only think of the earth
 - a. But Jesus' approach is working
 - b. She's engaging with questions

#3 – Articulate the axis (decision point) (Vs 13-15)

Read 4:13-15

1. Now Jesus finishes His offer
 - a. It's superior: not earthly (Read Mark 8:36)
 - b. It's satisfaction: you'll never thirst again
2. She's open, she's acknowledging her need
 - a. He's spoken of water that gives eternal life & she wants it
 - b. She's responding, not just to the need of water, but the need of eternal life

#4 – Rouse repentance from dissatisfaction (Vs 16-22)

Read 4:16-17a

1. Now Jesus gives her the call to action
2. He puts his finger on what sin is holding her
 - a. RYR – Go sell all you have (Mark 10:21)
3. We'll learn that she's currently living w/ a man
 - a. This shows she's getting honest
 - b. She just revealed vulnerable details that she didn't have to reveal

Read 4:17b-20

1. Now Jesus focuses on her sin in a way that isn't insulting or condemning, but in order to speak of her need
 - a. He's getting her to think about her lack of satisfaction with men in a marital relationship
 - b. He's not saying 'shame on you adulterer'; He's saying you're lacking, & I can fill the need
2. She *begins* to recognize who Jesus is
 - a. Seeing he's a prophet is to accept He's right about her sin

3. Her question in vs 20 is either a diversion or a genuine question she's always had
 - a. This is equivalent to people accepting your spiritual conversation with a response of 'Yeah, I really have to get back into Church. Can you recommend a good one?'
 - b. This is where Jesus doesn't allow the conversation to go off the rails into things that would miss the point

Read 4:21-22

1. The Samaritans only used the Torah and stopped after that revelation (no prophets)
 - a. They use Deut 27 & Mt Gerizim as their mt
2. They still should have known that salvation is from the Jews (or Judah)
 - a. Gen 49:10 – prophecies that the scepter won't depart Judah until Messiah comes
 - b. Deut 17 – prophecies a king chosen of God will come and rule

3. They don't know what they're worshipping b/c they reject the God-given Scripture (prophets)
4. His ask of her is 'woman, believe Me'
 - a. This isn't hyperbole, He means exactly this
 - b. At Lazarus' death Jesus said the same – 'Do you believe Me' (John 11:26)

#5 – Exalt Jesus (Vs 23-26)

Read 4:23-24

1. Worship in 'Spirit'
 - a. Not concerned about mountains & methods
 - b. Concerned w/ holiness of heart (I Sam 15:22)
2. Worship in 'Truth'
 - a. We must believe all God says of Himself
 - b. We must believe all God says of us
3. The Christian life then is the journey of growing in spirit and in truth
 - a. Faith comes by hearing the Word – Live the Word & let the Spirit grow His fruit of love

- b. In the midst of Eph 4 telling us how the church grows & matures, we're told to "speak the truth in love"

Read 4:25-26

1. This is truly the last real step here – clearly center the message & end the conversation around a decision regarding *the person of Jesus*
2. He challenges our preconceived teachings of who He is
3. He challenges our current religious system
4. Will we examine & embrace the authentic Jesus?

Results of Jews & Samaritans interacting (27-30)

Read 4:27

1. Disciple's actions here could be better or worse
 - a. Good: They were open to Jesus talking to her even if it violated traditions
 - b. Bad: Doesn't seem they talked to anyone in the city about Jesus as they did in Israel

Read 4:28-30

1. This is the response of a new believer
 - a. Change your current activity (left water pot)
 - i. Matthew began following Jesus by leaving his tax collecting booth (Matt 9:9)
 - b. Tell everyone you know that Jesus is Christ
 - i. Tell them to come and see

Conclusion

Now we have some tools to S.H.A.R.E Christ

1. **Start with standard conversation**
 - a. Cultivate compassion for people to engage
2. **Highlight the heavenly**
 - a. Talk about the powerful Gospel
3. **Articulate the axis (decision point)**
 - a. Don't be afraid to divide heaven and hell
4. **Rouse repentance from dissatisfaction**
 - a. Kindly call for confession of sin
5. **Exalt Jesus**

Next time someone says “Why are you talking to me? – Let the answer be, “To S.H.A.R.E. Jesus”