



ENCOUNTER

CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS WITH JESUS

Community Group Discussion: 07.14 - 07.28

SERIES OVERVIEW

Life is really a series of crucial conversations — some good, some bad, some memorable, and some forgettable. But there are a few crucial conversations in life that transcend being merely memorable and actually change things. Jesus loved having crucial conversations and he still does. In this series, we will look at three crucial conversations that Jesus had with people just like us, and we'll see how His words changed them, and how His words continue to change us.

MAIN TEXT

John 4:3-42

GETTING STARTED

Have you ever been excited for a new movie or book, only to be let down when you finally experienced it?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Who are the people you are tempted to categorize as “those people?” Why? What does that portray about Jesus to people who are not Christians?
2. Have you ever felt like an outcast before? What about in church? Why does this happen when it's the opposite of how Jesus treated people?
3. Read John 4:4. Have you purposefully gone out of your way to avoid people you didn't want to see? Why? How is that different from Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman?
4. We said in the sermon, “Our very best, is average — at best.” What are some things you thought would fulfill or satisfy you, but came up short?

5. We said in the sermon, “We want the Kingdom, without the King.” Which means we want the things of God, but we don’t want to deal with God, so we try and do it on our own. In what ways have you tried to manufacture purpose, or meaning, or love in your life apart from God? What was the result?
6. Jesus deliberately pursued the woman at the well when the rest of society treated her as an outcast. Do you know Jesus is for you, and God pursues you? How do you endure the times when it doesn’t feel like God is present?

NEXT STEPS

It’s one thing to encounter Jesus, it’s another thing to do something about it. The Samaritan woman could have continued seeking fulfillment in everything except Jesus, but instead, she ran to tell everyone about her encounter with the love of God. She didn’t have all the answers to their questions, she simply shared her story and invited them to “come and see the guy who did something with my mess.”

This week, identify at least one person who has caused you to feel like an outcast, or you have made an outcast, and share your story with them about what Jesus did with your mess. Invite them to come and see and let Jesus take it from there.

PRAY

Pray together as a group and ask for courage and opportunity this week as we go out to tell others to come and see.

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