

CHOOSING TO LOVE LIKE JESUS

The Pharisees heard that Jesus was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John, ²although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. ³When the Lord learned of this, he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee. ⁴Now he had to go through Samaria.

John 4:1-4 (NIV)

❖ Going Beyond Your Walls... by INITIATING the CONVERSATION.

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. ⁷When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" ⁸(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

John 4:5-9 (NIV)

1. "Jacob's well was there..." – This well was 100 FEET deep.
2. "... the sixth hour." – The middle of the day; hot; around 12 NOON.
3. "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman." – They didn't LIKE each other.

➤ Key Truth: God will lead you BEYOND your WALLS if you let Him.

❖ Going Beyond Your Walls... by discovering a COMMON INTEREST.

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." ¹¹"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?" ¹³Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

John 4:10-15 (NIV)

1. "If you knew... you would ask for living water." – Jesus creates INTEREST by her.
2. "Are you greater than our father Jacob?" – She's RELIGIOUS; no RELATIONSHIP.
3. "Sir give me this water so I don't have to keep coming here." – Sir meet MY NEED.

➤ Key Truth: People are seeking SHORT-CUTS to meet their PERCEIVED NEEDS.

❖ Going Beyond Your Walls... by getting to KNOW THEM personally.

He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." ¹⁷"I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." ¹⁹"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." ²⁵The woman said, "I know that Messiah (called Christ) is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

John 4:16-25 (NIV)

1. "Call your husband... I have no husband." – Jesus speaks TRUTH, not JUDGEMENT.
 2. "Sir I can see you are a prophet..." – Woman wants to CHANGE the SUBJECT.
 3. "I know that the Messiah is coming..." – She shows she is LOOKING for a SAVIOR.
 - Key Truth: When sharing your faith, don't ARGUE or JUDGE, just share JESUS.
- ❖ Going Beyond Your Walls... by allowing God to CHANGE their LIFE.
Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he." ... ²⁸Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹"Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" ³⁰They came out of the town and made their way toward him... ³⁹Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹And because of his words many more became believers. ⁴²They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."
- John 4:26, 28-30, 39-42 (NIV)
1. "Leaving her water jar..." – she now has a DIFFERENT FOCUS.
 2. "He told me everything I ever did..." – she now knows REAL LOVE.
 3. "... we know that He is the Savior..." – Her change leads to other CHANGED LIVES.
 - Key Truth: When someone meets Jesus their PRIORITIES and FOCUS changes.
- ❖ Closing Challenge: Go beyond your walls and LOVE like JESUS.
Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." ³³Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" ³⁴"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. ³⁵Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest?' I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. ³⁶Even now the

reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. ³⁷Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. ³⁸I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.'"

John 4:31-38 (NIV)

- Initiate the conversation
- Find a common interest
- Get to know them personally
- Introduce them to Jesus & let God change their Heart.

"Lord, I'm willing to share Jesus with others, please open the door and lead me."