

:: summary

As we continue our Worship series, this study of John 4:1-24 focuses on followers of Jesus engaging others and sharing the experiences of their testimony as an act of worship. Since Jesus gave the Great Commission to the disciples, the most impactful way the good news of the gospel has been shared is in one-to-one relationship, and seizing or even creating opportunities to invite others into the life you have found in Jesus as a supreme act of worship before God.

:: discussion

Every one of us has a unique story. It is one of the most compelling things you can offer someone else as you share about Jesus, and yet, there are often self-imposed and social boundaries that keep us from sharing because of the perceived risk involved.

When you consider the idea of sharing what Jesus has done in your life with someone else, what emotions come to mind? Do you feel free or even excited to share your story? Do any boundaries that stand in the way come to mind?

Read John 4:1-9

In passing through Samaria, Jesus is making a deliberate and risky choice: to cross a significant geographical, social and political boundary to engage people who had great hostility toward Jews like Jesus, who would commonly take other routes around Samaria to avoid contact with Samaritans.

Why would Jesus do something like this? What can you gather from the text to describe Jesus' motivation?

In verse 7, how does Jesus defy social norms and the expectations of the woman he meets at the well? What do Jesus' intentions seem to be?

What can you take away from Jesus' example as you consider what it looks like to share your own story and the good news of the gospel with others inside and outside of your circle?

Read John 4:9-14

In verse 10, Jesus offers the skeptical woman "living water" that will well up in her as she receives the gift of eternal life. How does the prospect of sharing that gift with others impact the way you think about sharing Jesus with others?

Read John 4:23-24

Jesus says "true" worshippers will worship in Spirit *and* Truth. So often, a common road block in sharing the good news is the misconception that as Christians we have a duty to do battle with those who don't believe in Jesus and convert them at all cost, as if the Truth of our beliefs or the person we are sharing with is on trial.

How would you feel about sharing the good news if all you had to do was act as a witness and share the truth of your testimony and what you have experienced?

Sharing your story really is that simple. Think about your story with God. What was your life like before you met Jesus and what is it like now? How has God changed your life and how you live and experience it? These are the things we can share with others to give God His due glory in our lives as we worship Him by sharing our stories.

