



# JOHN CHAPTER 4 PART 1

*10 Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." - Jn 4:10..*

When we think of John Chapter 4, we often only think of the woman at the well. Though there are a great number of lessons to be learned from this story, the contrast between Jesus and a very problematic woman, the cultural dichotomies, and living water, these are not the entirety of the chapter, nor the lesson. One of the most important things that we ought never lose sight of is the fact that this begins Jesus' public ministry. In doing so He seeks the outcast, the humble, rather than the proud. What could this say about God's attitude toward the proud? Further, He takes an ordinary conversation and converts it to a spiritual conversation. Sanctifying the ordinary. How many times in our lives do we feel just ordinary, or not special? What if that is exactly what God is looking for? Jesus knows no boundaries, He will cross into enemy territory to find the ordinary outcast and move our hearts from the physical to the spiritual. How often do we get hung up on the physical well, when the source of living water is standing right in front of us? What Jesus has to offer us is not physical, rather it is spiritual. When we seek to follow Christ we should seek to worship in spirit and truth rather than seeking to see our lives changed or to prosper physically. As Jesus pointed people to worship the Father, and the Samaritan Woman pointed others to come to see Christ, a truly transformed life leaves what they were doing and points others to Christ.

***Read John 4:1-30 How do we connect the 'Living Water' Jesus speaks of here to the Old Testament? What about other places in the New Testament?***

## **Discussion Questions**

1. In this chapter, Jesus went the most direct route (through Samaria) when other religious leaders, and Jews, would have gone around the region entirely. When have you found yourself going out of your way to avoid people that you have had problems with? How has God healed those problems through confrontation?
2. How have you been too 'hung up' on the physical to see the spiritual? How can we learn to focus more on the spiritual?
3. A common avoidance practice is to ignore an honest conversation about Jesus by talking about the experiences of others, or poking holes in other theological points of view. What excuses have you heard that have prevented others from truly acknowledging Christ; How have you been able to meet these with the Truth of God's Word?
4. What does it mean to worship in spirit and truth? Why do you think this was a big deal to the Samaritan woman? Is it a big deal to you? Why?
5. A transformed heart proclaims the Gospel! The Samaritan Woman left everything she was doing to run to town and tell others about Jesus. As you have been made new, (left everything you were doing) how has your life told others about Christ?