

Digging Deeper: Broken People – “Loving the Outcast” by Robert Lee
Scripture Reference: John 4:1-26, 28-29, 39-42

Day 1 (Monday): Pray. Read Jn 4:1-3 and 3:22-36

Christ's success in winning disciples had created jealousy among John's followers and provoked questions among the Pharisees. There is an important reason why Jesus left Judea for Galilee? What was his main reason?

Day 2 (Tuesday): Pray. Read Jn 4:4-6

Jesus left Judea and went back to Galilee. How long was his journey? What was so significant about the plot of land where Jesus finally rested when he arrived in Samaria? Why was it typical for the Jews to avoid Samaria during those days? Have you ever been accused or been a victim of discrimination of any type? If so, are you receiving necessary help overcome any lasting effects? If not, I know the One who can help.

Day 3 (Wednesday): Pray. Read Jn 4:7-26

Jesus asked for a drink of water from a special character while at the well, a Samaritan woman. What symbolisms did Jesus provide while conversing with the woman at the well? What is the main fact that Jesus revealed to her? How does the Father want true believers to worship Him? Do you believe today in the words Jesus spoke in verse 26?

Day 4 (Thursday): Pray. Read Jn 4:27-34

In verse 27, the disciples returned to where Jesus was resting. How did they respond when they found him talking with the woman? What did they urge Jesus to do after the woman left the area and how did Jesus respond? What is Jesus' "food of choice" (verse 34), and have you ever received this degree of nourishment prepared by the mighty hands of Jesus?

Day 5 (Friday): Pray. Read Jn 4:39-40

Many in the town of Samaria believed in Jesus because of what the woman told them about her encounter with Jesus. What did the town's people do when they realized that he was still nearby? What impact did Jesus have on the local non-believers? Do you recognize the impact that Jesus has on your life? Who do you share your personal story about Jesus with?

Day 6 (Saturday): Pray. Read Jn 41-42

The town's people said to the woman at the well that they no longer believe in Jesus because of what she told them. What "good news" did they proclaim in verse 42? Do you share the same story? If not, isn't it wonderful to know that you need to look no further? I thank God that his Holy Spirit is in this

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place. Be encouraged this week to know that you can take your burdens to the Lord and leave them there!

“What does God see when He looks at us and our world? Is He thrilled at how we're treating one another or is He disappointed? I just wonder sometimes. We have a golden opportunity to do good to our fellow man just as Jesus did, to influence the lost in a positive way and to minister to the needs of others for His name's sake. But if we do all the great works that a man can do with the heart of a Pharisee, we've done nothing. For those who may not know, in the days of Jesus, the Pharisees made it their business to follow their religious laws to perfection. Being very religious, they went to the Temple as often as possible and prayed many prayers, and often did so publicly, to make sure to be seen and known as being religious people. They kept the Sabbath and knew the Hebrew Scriptures by heart, studying daily. But though they were devoted to God in these ways, Jesus considered them to be hypocrites, and didn't mind letting them know how He felt. They criticized Jesus for hanging around sinners while putting themselves on pedestals for having nothing to do with lowlifes. The last thing I [should] want to do is disappoint our Lord. The last thing I [should] want to do is compare myself with others, as though the next person is lower in God's sight than I am. [Some have] barely made it to the foot of the cross of Jesus. It was the grace and mercy of Christ Jesus that brought [many of us] to our

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knees and allowed His blood to drip down on us. It wasn't for me, it was for US, the whole world, that He did this marvelous thing. - We're sorry Lord for words, deeds and hardened hearts that miss the point of what you are really trying to accomplish through us. Renew a right spirit within us we pray, Amen...”

Written in 2012 by Anita Burks (sister of Robert Lee)