

Message Notes | Mission Builders

Part 1: What the World Needs

John 4:4-26

→ a desire that everyone can relate to

#1 We all long to know that we are loved and accepted.

→ Jesus travels through Samaria – vs. 4-8

#2 No one is outside the reach of Jesus’ love.

→ Jesus talks to the woman about living water - vs. 9-15

→ it gets a little uncomfortable - vs. 16-18

#3 We often try to quench our deepest thirst with things that can’t truly satisfy.

→ fully known and full loved – vs. Romans 8:38-39

#4 What the world needs is the truth and grace of Jesus.

→ our mission is to lead people to Jesus

Group Questions | Mission Builders

Part 1: What the World Needs

John 4:4-26

1. The message said, “We all long to know that we are loved and accepted.” Where do you think people most commonly look today for that sense of love, acceptance, and belonging? Why is it so powerful?

2. **Read John 4:4–9.** There were several cultural and social barriers that could have kept Jesus from interacting with this woman. What stands out to you about the way Jesus approaches her? What does this interaction teach you about the heart of Jesus?

3. **Read John 4:10–18.** Why do you think Jesus brings up the woman's relationships when they had been talking about “living water”?

What does this tell us about the difference between what we *think* we need and what Jesus knows we need?

4. The sermon compared some of the things we pursue to drinking ocean water: they promise to satisfy our thirst but can actually leave us thirstier. What are some “wells” people commonly turn to for their identity, worth, love, or acceptance? Which ones are most tempting for you?

5. What’s the difference between enjoying good things like relationships, career, family, or success and *relying* on those things for something only God can provide?

6. **Read John 4:16–18 and Romans 8:38–39.** Jesus knew everything about this woman's life and still met with her and ultimately, died for her. How does it change the way you view God's love to know that Jesus knows you completely and still loves you deeply?

7. Jesus offered this woman both truth about what was broken and grace that could make her whole. Why do we need both truth and grace? What happens when Christians or churches emphasize one without the other?

Bible Reading

John 4:4-18

⁴ Now he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ When 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.)

⁹ The 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.)

¹⁰ 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?” ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?”

¹³ Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

¹⁵ The 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.”

¹⁶ 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. ¹⁸ The 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.”