

ENCOUNTER

Once you truly encounter Jesus you'll find there is no one who can impact, transform, and empower your life like Him

He reveals His divine nature for your life and satisfies our soul's deepest needs

John 4:5-18 Message To get there, he had to pass through Samaria. He came into Sychar, a Samaritan village that bordered the field Jacob had given his son Joseph. Jacob's well was still there. Jesus, worn out by the trip, sat down at the well. It was noon.

⁷⁻⁸ A woman, a Samaritan, came to draw water. Jesus said, "Would you give me a drink of water?" (His disciples had gone to the village to buy food for lunch.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman, taken aback, asked, "How come you, a Jew, are asking me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" (Jews in those days wouldn't be caught dead talking to Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered, "If you knew the generosity of God and who I am, you would be asking *me* for a drink, and I would give you fresh, living water."

¹¹⁻¹² The woman said, "Sir, you don't even have a bucket to draw with, and this well is deep. So how are you going to get this 'living water'? Are you a better man than our ancestor Jacob, who dug this well and drank from it, he and his sons and livestock, and passed it down to us?"

¹³⁻¹⁴ Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again and again. Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life."

¹⁵ The woman said, "Sir, give me this water so I won't ever get thirsty, won't ever have to come back to this well again!"

¹⁶ He said, "Go call your husband and then come back."

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ "I have no husband," she said.

"That's nicely put: 'I have no husband.' You've had five husbands, and the man you're living with now isn't even your husband. You spoke the truth there, sure enough."

This woman's life is a true example of what a true encounter with God does, it makes our lives a catalyst for change to lead people to Christ – the Lord said just tell her story

v. 4-6 NKJV

- Jesus went out of His way to meet this woman, just like He has for you today
- It shows Jesus' humanity and divinity – He was weary and thirsty-humanity. He knew everything about her divine omniscience and He also knows your story
- This wasn't a safe place for either of them. The woman came at noon because none of the other women would be seen with her in the cool of the day – her shame was her story

v. 7-9 NKJV

- Jesus asked her for a drink and she ignored Him because Jews and Samaritans had no dealings with each other
- I mean, He would have been defiled by her giving Him a drink but Jesus was intentionally breaking down social and cultural barriers. Why?
- John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life
- He has come intentionally today to break through whatever wall/barrier you have in your life also

v. 10-15 NKJV

- Jesus was showing her that He is the author, giver, and sustainer of life. He offered living water
- She challenged Jesus by asking do you think you're better than Jacob, our ancestor? He probably told her I know Jacob
- Jesus said whoever drinks of this well or what this life offers will thirst again and again. Why? Nothing this life offers can satisfy or sustain you
- Jesus offered her and us living water that provides spiritual fulfillment that has no ending. His path is greater than all others!

- It will be like a fountain springing up into everlasting life, but you must partake, you must drink! Not once but daily He is our source. John 15 reference

v. 16-19 NKJV

- Jesus tells her whole life and all about her 5 husbands, she probably thought He was going to preach at her and make her relive her shame, that's why she came to the well at noon so she wouldn't have to worry about meeting anyone to remind her of her life
- Jesus was just trying to address her deepest need and yours also. She didn't need more worldly relationships to replace the broken ones, she just needed Jesus because He was about to fill her empty void!

v. 20-26 NKJV

- Her family worshiped on this mountain but now they had to go Jerusalem but the problem she wasn't allowed to worship there
- Jesus was still tearing down walls. He wanted her to know the hour has come when you will worship the Father in Spirit and truth from your heart, not just in one place
- He came to reach this woman and you to reveal your real purpose
- First time Jesus reveals Himself as the Messiah here. She trusted no one and had no self-worth but Jesus came to her anyway

v. 27-29 NKJV

Not by chance but by divine encounter, nor are you here today by chance

Her encounter with Jesus so changed her because He knew her whole life but still came to her

She said I'm going to tell everyone and she did.

In **v. 39-42** she gave her village an invitation to come and see who she encountered that changed her life forever!

They believed because they encountered Him also. Will you?

Altar