

Joseph Carty / General

Love Ministry / Relationships; Connector; Friendship / John 4:7
Learning to mingle like Jesus.

Are You Prepared to Meet God?

The story is told about a barber who had just been to an old-fashioned revival meeting. The next morning at work he wanted to share his new faith and witness to the lost.

A customer came in, and the barber began to shave him. He was trying to muster up the right words to say. Finally as he stood with his razor poised over the man's throat he asked, "Are you prepared to meet God?"

- Connecting with People
- No Pressure
 - Mingling

Ministry of Healing Medical Missionaries and Their Work

Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them,

“Follow Me.”

- Mingling
 - For everyone

A BLIND, ILLITERATE SOUL-WINNER

A missionary to Africa told the story of an elderly woman who was reached with the gospel. Though she was blind and could neither read nor write, she wanted to share her new found faith with others. She went to the missionary and asked for a copy of the Bible in French. When she got it, she asked the missionary to underline [John 3:16](#) in red and mark the page it was on so she could find it. The missionary wanted to see what she would do, so one day he followed her.

In the afternoon, just before school let out, she made her way to the front door. As the boys came out when school was dismissed, she would stop one and ask if he knew how to read French. When he said “Yes” she would ask him to read the verse that was marked in red. Then she would ask, “Do you know what this means?” and tell him about Christ.

The missionary said that twenty-four of the school boys that lady led to the Lord became pastors.

- Mingling for all
 - Yet, takes practice

Looking for Spiritual Opportunities

John 4:7 ESV

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”

- Asks her for help

John 4:9 ESV

The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

- deep hatred
-
- Woman

Throws Out Spiritual Idea

John 4:10 ESV

Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”

- Testing the water
 - see where they
 - are coming from.
- Phrases that change conversations:
 - “Thank God”
 - “God knows”
 - “Praying about it”
 - “I can pray for you/them”
- See what happens

John 4:11-12 ESV

The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.”

- she doesn't get it
 - she answers physically

- Jesus tries again.
 - more bold

John 4:13-14 ESV

Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

- Does she get it?
 - not really

John 4:15 ESV

The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”

- Still stuck on physical
- But **wanting something.**
- Common Response

Conversation in a Car

- Michigan
 - contractor
 - winter
 - dead battery
- GF father died
 - prayed mother would
 - hated God
- Need Love
 - need support
 - need listening ear
- Not theological response

Do you need me to listen or do you need me to help you solve your problem?

- Real Question
 - Not theological
 - Origin of Evil study

Real Questions

- Does God Really Love Me?
 - Can I Trust Him?
 - Do You Care?
-
- Jesus tries
 - another approach

John 4:16-18 ESV

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.”

Spiritual Power

- Maybe you can't
 - read mind
 - read life
- Pray for
 - right words
 - right insights

Questions vs. Comments

- **Through Questions**
 - **people open**
- **Through Statements**
 - **people may close**

People like to talk about themselves.

- Simple conversations
 - lead to big connections.
 - with sincerity.

On January 1, 2010 a law went into effect in Texas that requires Department of Public Safety clerks to ask all driver's license applicants if they wish to become an organ donor. The result of the new law more than doubled the number of registered organ donors.

- Don't expect
 - all things
 - to work out.
- How she responds?
 - positive
 - negative

John 4:19-20 ESV

The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship."

- Positive
 - prophet
- Negative
 - controversies...

Desire of Ages Chapter 19—At Jacob’s Well

Patently Jesus permitted her to lead the conversation whither she would. Meanwhile He watched for the opportunity of again bringing the truth home to her heart. “Our fathers worshiped in this mountain,”

Avoid Controversy

- Apologetics
- Focus on
 - point of agreement.
- Don’t argue

Testing Truths

- Catholic
 - 2nd Angel
 - 3rd Angel
- Baptist
 - Hell
 - State of Dead
- Agreement
 - Muslim
 - Pork
 - Catholic
 - sacred service
 - ministry to sick

- Baptist
 - Baptism
- Pentecostal
 - Holy Spirit

Review and Herald February 9, 1892: On the Way to Australia

The spirit of debate, of controversy, is a device of Satan to stir up combativeness, and thus eclipse the truth as it is in Jesus. Many have thus been repulsed instead of being won to Christ.

Changes Topic

- tact

Desire of Ages Chapter 19—At Jacob’s Well

He desired to lift the thoughts of His hearer above matters of form and ceremony, and questions of controversy.

- not over bearing

John 4:21–24 ESV

Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you

do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

True Relationships

- Even God wants
 - spirit
 - truth
 - relationship

Desire of Ages Chapter 19—At Jacob’s Well

Religion is not to be confined to external forms and ceremonies. The religion that comes from God is the only religion that will lead to God. In order to serve Him aright, we must be born of the divine Spirit. This will purify the heart and renew the mind, giving us a new capacity for knowing and loving God. It will give us a willing obedience to all His requirements. This is true worship. It is the fruit of the working of the Holy Spirit.

- Intrinsic
 - Extrinsic

Persistence

- Jesus does not give up
 - but is not pushy
- She seems to resist
 - His gentle leading

John 4:25 ESV

The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.”

- She seems unready
 - Holy Spirit is leading
- Moment between
 - conversion and
 - rejection
 - very small

- On the fence
 - Spirit Directs
- Practice
 - Listening to Spirit
 - Sensing Conviction

The Bombshell

- He senses she is ready
 - says:

John 4:26 ESV

Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

- An offer
- If done right
 - each convo
 - has offer.

- She wants it..

“Give me this water!”

Desire of Ages Chapter 19—At Jacob’s Well

She realized her soul thirst, which the waters of the well of Sychar could never satisfy.

- She began to want it

Desire of Ages Chapter 19—At Jacob’s Well

The plain statement made by Christ to this woman could not have been made to the self-righteous Jews. Christ was far more reserved when He spoke to them. That which had been withheld from the Jews, and which the disciples were afterward enjoined to keep secret, was revealed to her. Jesus saw that she would make use of her knowledge in bringing others to share His grace.

John 4:27 ESV

Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?”

- Walk up
 - just missed something...

- She leaves
 - contemplates
 - shares

John 4:28-30 ESV

So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” They went out of the town and were coming to him.

- when your friend
 - share with other
 - you know they are
 - ready for next step.

John 4:31-33 ESV

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought him something to eat?”

- Jesus is weary
 - tired
 - thirsty

- never got water
- hungry

Your Food

John 4:34 ESV

Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.

- Nothing more rewarding
 - than serving.

BLEEDING TO DEATH OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL

Christopher Sercye was playing basketball with his friends on May 16, 1998 when he was shot in the chest, and a bullet perforated his aorta. His friends helped him get to within forty feet of the entrance to Ravenswood Hospital and then went inside and asked for help.

The hospital staff refused to help Christopher saying that it was against the hospital’s policies to administer aid to those outside the hospital.

Eventually a policeman was able to get a wheel chair and wheeled Christopher into the hospital where he was helped by the hospital staff. It was too late, however, and Christopher died about an hour later.

Many times it seems that churches are surrounded by people that desperately need to hear the Gospel, yet Christians are content to share it only with those that manage to come inside their church.

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Appeal

- Mingle with People
- Pray for Divine Appointments
- Allow God's Leading