

"Could He Be the Messiah?"

Joseph Carty / General

Samaritan Woman; Woman at the Well / John 4:1–42

Jesus takes time to have a very powerful conversation with a Samaritan woman. In the eyes of the disciples, she would have been unworthy to chat with. Even in the eyes of those from her own city she was a woman with a bad reputation. But Jesus saw in her potential for a great missionary. She proved to be just what he thought. She won her whole city for Jesus.

Don't Judge a Book By its Cover

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John 4:1–4 HCSB

When Jesus knew that the Pharisees heard He was making and baptizing more disciples than John (though Jesus Himself was not baptizing, but His disciples were), He left Judea and went again to Galilee. He had to travel through Samaria,

- He did not HAVE to
 - travel through Samaria
- Many Jews
 - take long route

- around.
- Jesus was intentional
 - had plan.

John 4:5-6 ESV

So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

- That is noon.
 - it is hot
 - it is noon
- Jesus
 - hungry
 - thirsty
 - tired
- Thirsty

- no water pot
- Hungry
 - no food
 - Jesus stays
- People draw water
 - morning
 - evening
 - avoid mid-day
 - large groups

John 4:7 ESV

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

- The fact that she came
 - at that time
 - says something.

- She is avoiding
 - groups of others.
 - She is an outcast.
- Jesus reaches out to her.

“Give me a drink”

- Woman surprised.

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.)

- Jesus knew
 - strong prejudice.
- Pharisees taught
 - buy food
 - exchange business
 - don’t befriend

- no hospitality
- Jesus breaks
 - unwritten rule.
- Wise move
 - asks for favor.
- If he offered a favor
 - she could say no.
- Asking for favor
 - Jesus broke prejudice.
 - She has pity.
- Heart ready to understand.
 - Heart warmed.
- Woman who is

- shunned
- rejected
- prejudice
 - Jesus reaches past
 - all that.
- Heart is softened.
 - Jesus says:

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.”

- She is impressed by him
 - but she is not ready
 - to bite yet.
- Introduces doubt
 - and controversy.

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.”

- Jesus tells her
 - later who He is
- But now
 - she is not ready.
- You can see she
 - is not ready
 - because she
 - introduces
 - controversy.
- Both Jews and Samaritans
 - Called Jacob Father
- But Jews

- considered themselves
 - true heir
- Samaritans
 - false heirs
- Bothered Jews
 - that Samaritans
 - claimed rights to
 - family well.
- Jesus avoid controversy
 - makes offer more
 - emphatic.

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.”

- We are learn
 - from master evangelist.

- How to win hearts.
 - avoid controversies
 - build trust
 - make genuine offer
- He words
 - powerful promise
 - for us today.
- Those who drink.
 - not just thirst quenched.
- More
 - they become
 - Spring
 - Well
 - Source of Water
 - for others!

- In this world
 - people are thirsty.
 - constantly seeking
 - quench longing.
 - spiritually.
- Jesus warns
 - nothing out there
 - can fill like
 - WATER OF LIFE.
- Jesus words here
 - don't promise
 - you never have to
 - drink again.
- Just promise
 - you never have to

- drink from world
 - ever again!
- You will realize
 - **it does not satisfy!**
- **Only Jesus**
 - **Quench Longing Heart!**
- Today, Saints,
 - same offer
 - Water of Life!
- You want something
 - that really lasts.
- Are you tired
 - world's gifts
 - temporary pleasure.

- temporary joy
 - lower than before?
- Come to
 - Jesus Well
- She says,
 - yes, I want it.

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.”

- At this point,
 - Jesus changes approach.
- She ready to
 - receive something.
- Jesus must show her
 - she has to let go

- of something else.

Monkey Trap

Hand in jar.

- Process of letting go.

John 4:16 ESV

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”

- Jesus knows
 - He put her in corner...
- She tries to avoid.

[John 4:17](#) (ESV)

The woman answered him, “I have no husband.”

- Before she is fully able

- receive water of life
 - must recognize sin.
- She doesn't want
 - to go there...
- Jesus pushes issue:

[John 4:17-18](#) (ESV)

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."

- In order to be saved
 - you must first
 - BE LOST.
- You cannot be found
 - if you feel
 - you are not
 - lost....

- Jesus has to
 - reveal her
 - great need.

- She is amazed
 - He can read
 - thoughts
 - history
 - hurts
 - choices

- This man has
 - more than:
 - information
 - pleasant conversation
 - consolation
 - TRANSFORMATION

- It is only sinners
 - that need a savior.
- She sees where
 - He is leading
 - but it hurts to go there.
- So she deflects
 - introduces controversy
 - again.

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.”

Like fishing

trout in

fresh water stream

See them

Convince them

to bite...

Lead them...

- Watch Jesus
 - Learn from him.
 - Great fisherman.

What bait did you use?

what spot?

What time?

What weather?

- Jesus studies her
 - sees conviction
 - body language
 - squirm in chair
 - rub hands
 - look down

Shark - smells blood

Wolf - see prey is trapped

- Jesus is
 - luring her closer
 - to the truth.
- Not ready to bite yet.
- Jesus allows deflection
 - she is not ready
 - to bite yet.

[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.

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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."

Story of Mount Gerizim

- Jesus asked for water
 - proved not prejudice
- Now trying
 - get her to
 - let go of prejudice.
- Inter-racial
- Inter-cultural
 - difficult
 - mission work
 - break walls

Albania

Bible Work

deep south

- Jesus avoids controversy...
 - but
- Speaks the truth..

Salvation is of the Jews

- At same time,
 - doesn't kick her out
 - of the picture.

Father is seeking such people to worship him.

- She sees hope
 - she can be
 - among people.

- Jesus conditions are
 - simple today.

- Those who Jesus accepts:

“must worship in spirit and truth”

- Two conditions
 - Spirit
 - Truth
- Many people have 1
 - Spirit
 - Truth
 - Few have both.

Spirit

- People who are
 - living with passion.
 - living with conviction.
 - living best they know.
- Unfortunately,
 - many are missing **truth**.
- They are sincere

- but sincerely wrong.

- Worship is genuine
 - but in accurate.

- Surrounded by
 - many good Christians
 - Pursuing God
 - Seeking God
 - inaccurate teaching.

- God loves them
 - accepts worship
 - but wants more...

- Paul talking to
 - Greeks
 - Athens
 - Pantheon of gods

- philosophers

- Says to them:

[Acts 17:30–31](#) (ESV)

The **times of ignorance God overlooked**, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

- Clearly,
 - God gives grace
 - unavoidably ignorant.
- God accepts them
 - even false worship
 - when done with
 - honest heart....
- That is Spirit...
 - Samaritans had

- Spirit...
 - False worship.

- Jesus wants more

[John 4:23-24](#) (ESV)

... true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

- God is seeking
 - true worshipers
- Jesus loved
 - woman at well
 - accepted Samaritans.
- But
 - desired
 - true worship.
- Woman wants

- what Jesus is saying
 - struggling with
 - controversies.
- Says, cop-out:
 - kinda true
 - used flippantly.

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.”

“We will just have to wait for Jesus to come and set the record straight for us.”

- True statement .
- But
 - wrong attitude.
- Cop-out
 - we can’t know for sure...
 - Jesus will show us...
 - **I don’t have to change...**

- I have spirit.
 - Jesus will
 - tell me when he comes.
- Jesus drops bomb shell.
 - said to very few...

John 4:26 ESV

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

- Stop waiting for
 - Messiah to
 - set record straight.

- **I AM HERE!**

- Bold Claim
 - Will she believe?

- Will she accept?
- Conversation is
 - cut short...

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?”

- Disciples hates Samaritans
 - Surprised
 - Jesus talked to her.

“Sons of Thunder”

[Luke 9:51–56](#) (ESV)

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him.

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But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do

you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them. And they went on to another village.

- Son’s of Thunder

“Call down fire from heaven.”

- Their opinion
 - of the Samaritans.
 - deserve death.
- Jesus mission
 - not just woman
 - not just people in town
 - teach disciples.

Prejudice

in the south...

- The disciples saw
 - no value in her.

[John 4:28](#) (ESV)

So the woman left her water jar and went away into town...

› **She left pot.**

- Disciples think:
 - “we can draw water”
- Jesus knows
 - why she left it.
- Disciples saw nothing else.
- Jesus knew
 - She left in hurry
 - for a reason.
- She left to
 - tell others!

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.

- Sad reality
 - Disciples were
 - Fishers of men...
- But they saw
 - no fish
 - of value.
- Disciples could not
 - fulfill their job
 - due to prejudice.
- What they could not do.
 - she does.
 - Quite successfully!
- Continue story:

John 4:31-34 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 said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.

- Jesus was weak.
 - not eating enough.
- Too busy
 - serving others
 - to eat...
- Bring Him food.
 - NOT HUNGRY!
- Why?
 - already eaten???

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.

- We live
 - rat race.

- Trying to
 - get ahead.
 - make it.
 - achieve.
 - survive.

- Our mind is
 - set on
 - physical
 - temporal

- Sabbath is
 - rest from
 - rat race

- focus on
 - “all these other things”

- What made Jesus

- so different?
- Lived in the
 - eternal
 - no
 - temporal.

[John 4:39–42](#) (ESV)

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.

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And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

- They believed
 - not just spirit
 - but truth...

› SDA's

- truth
- no spirit

› SDA's

- “we have truth”
 - afraid of pentecostal power
 -
 - have information
 - lack experience
 -
 - love to study
 - lack application
 -
 - was great movement
 - “frozen chosen”
- Today

Appeal

- Drink Water
- Experience Spirit
- Know Jesus as Friend
- Conversion
- Transformational Prayer
- Surrendered Service