

My wife and I grew up in families that enjoyed camping. From tents, all the way up to large motor homes, we traveled as kids across the country several times. Water is an essential element for cooking, cleaning, and drinking, that we take for granted in our modern homes. I can remember my father wanting to save money and stay in a campsite that did not have a water hookup. Our chore as kids was to go get water for my mom. While I don't remember meeting anyone special at the water station, I do remember meeting all types of people while camping. They just seemed to be more outgoing, friendly, and welcoming.

John 4 tells the famous story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus uses the opportunity to challenge his disciples to 'harvest' souls for eternal life. Where is your "water station" (the place where your community gathers)? Work? School? Your neighborhood? Let us seek to both sow and reap a bountiful harvest!

Getting To Know You

1. Would you describe yourself as an extrovert or an introvert?

2. Who is your most unique friend or acquaintance (ethnically, culturally)?

Into the Bible

1. Why do you think Jesus chooses a Samaritan woman for this lesson?

2. In John 4:14 Jesus describes another type of water that quenches our thirst. What is he describing? (Look at Isaiah 12:3)

3. Many faiths have an annual pilgrimage to a holy place. How is Christianity different? Where can we worship? (John 4:21 - 23).

4. What is the significance of John 4:39? Have you shared your testimony?

Taking It Home

1. Make a purposeful decision to share your testimony with someone in the coming days or weeks. Simply, tell your story!

2. Another way to reach others is to share how you have been blessed. Why not keep a diary of you daily blessings? You will even be surprised to read back on the blessings of the Lord!

John 4:1-24

[The Samaritan Woman]

*“Therefore when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John (although Jesus Himself was not baptizing, but His disciples were), He left Judea and went away again into Galilee. And He had to pass through Samaria. So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph; and Jacob’s well was there. So Jesus, being wearied from His journey, was sitting thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, ‘Give Me a drink.’ For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Therefore the Samaritan woman said to Him, ‘How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?’ (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered and said to her, ‘If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.’ She said to Him, ‘Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water? You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself and his sons and his cattle?’ Jesus answered and said to her, ‘Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.’ The woman *said to Him, ‘Sir, give me this water, so I will not be thirsty nor come all the way here to draw.’ He said to her, ‘Go, call your husband and come here.’ The woman answered and said, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You have correctly said, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.’ The woman said to Him, ‘Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in 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 an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”*