



## Sermon Discussion Questions

### GIFT: Jesus Through John

### John 4: The Woman at The Well

#### INTRODUCE IT

In this series, we are exploring the concept of God's greatest gift to us. When He came to earth as Jesus Christ and lived among us, God made the ultimate sacrifice so that we might know Him. But what does He want us to know about who He is and what life with Jesus offers us? By looking at different events in the Gospel of John, we seek to learn more about the nature of God's love for us and the incredible Gift we have been given.

To start this week's discussion, share with the group a gift you have received that was special to you. What made it special? Who gave it to you? Where there any circumstances in your life at that time that added to the significance of the gift? What were they?

#### STUDY THE PASSAGE

##### Read John 4: 3-30

Why did Jesus have to travel through Samaria?

What was culturally unusual about this encounter between Jesus and the woman? Why is the woman surprised that Jesus asks her for a drink?

What is the gift that Jesus offers? How does the woman respond to His statement?

**Read Proverbs 13:4 and 18:4. Now Read John 7:37-39.** Discuss as a group what these passages teach about the "living water" Jesus spoke about?

Proverbs 13:14: *The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, so that one may avoid the snares of death.*

Proverbs 18:4: *The words of a man's mouth are deep waters, but the fountain of wisdom is a bubbling brook.*

John 7.37-39 identifies the waters as the Spirit:

*On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

Jesus asks her a seemingly innocent question about her Husband that draws out an area of sin in her life and explains why she might be coming to the well alone in the middle of the day. How does she respond? How do you think you would have responded?

What does she ultimately come to understand from the conversation?

This story follows closely behind the encounter that Jesus had with Nicodemus that was the text for the previous week's message. **Read John 3: 1-21.** What stands out as different between the two encounters? What similarities are there?

**USE IT**

There's a line from an old song that goes: "Like the woman at the well, I was seeking, for things that could not satisfy. And then I heard my Savior speaking 'Drink from the well that never will run dry'". When we encounter Jesus, we have the promise of the gift of "Living Water". We often find that in order to receive that gift we have to come to terms with things in our lives that only quench our thirst temporarily but keep us from drinking deeply. Sometimes, they are not bad and may even be good in the proper context, but we have allowed them to keep us from the Living Water.

Think about what you are seeking that will never fully satisfy your thirst. Pray and ask God to help you replace them with the gift Jesus is offering. If you feel comfortable in doing so, share this with the each other and pray together for God's help in filling your cups with Living Water.