

HOMework

OCTOBER 22/25, 2020

COME AND SEE | WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE?

JOHN 4:1-42

Note to Leaders: Every group is different, please choose the questions that relate best to your particular group from each section below.

WORK AHEAD | HOW CAN I COME PREPARED FOR MY GROUP?

1. Read John 4:1-42 in one sitting (about 5 minutes).
2. Look over your message notes. What was surprising or insightful? What questions were raised?
3. If time allows, look ahead at the "Digging In" section and think through how you would contribute to your group discussion.
4. It is helpful to have some historical background about the tension that existed between Jews and Samaritans. Here is a short article: bible.org/illustration/hatred-between-jews-and-samaritans

FOR STARTERS | THOUGHTS TO GET US ON THE SAME PAGE

1. Can you recall a moment when you found "your kind of people"?
2. How many different social or political "tribes" can you think of in our current cultural situation? How do these different groups view God?

DIGGING IN | DISCOVERING WHAT GOD SAYS IN SCRIPTURE

1. God seeks worshippers among all people.
 - a. Read Genesis 12:3, Isaiah 2:1-4 and Revelation 7:9.
 - b. In John 4:42, the believing Samaritans called Jesus the "Savior of the world." What does this tell you about God's heart for all kinds of people?
 - c. John 4:4 tells us Jesus "had to" go through Samaria. Considering the animosity between Israel and Samaria, how do you think His disciples felt about crossing that boundary? What does this say about our racial, theological and cultural boundaries today?

2. Jesus' gift of living water.

- a. Read Jeremiah 2:13, Zechariah 14:8 and Revelation 7:17.
- b. In John 4:10-15, Jesus offers living water. What does the woman think He means, and what does He really mean? How often do we make the mistake of our felt needs when Jesus wants to give us something better?
- c. John specifically mentions "water" flowing from Jesus' side in 19:34. What does this tell you about Jesus' death on the cross?

BRINGING IT HOME | APPLYING WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

Personal Reflection

1. The Samaritan woman learned to come to a new "well." What would it look like for you to leave all the old wells behind and come to Jesus for living water?
2. The disciples almost missed the "harvest" right in front of them because of their cultural biases. They spent two days with the Samaritans (4:40). Is there any kind of person you feel God is calling you to spend some time with in order to reach them?

Group Application

1. Take some time to share communion together. Consider the gift of living water that Jesus provides on the cross.
2. Take a moment to pray for a person or group that is far from God. Ask Him to give you His heart for them.

DIGGING DEEPER | IDEAS TO KEEP GROWING DURING THE WEEK

1. Take a moment to pray for a person or group who are different from you each day this week. Let the Savior of the whole world shape your heart for all people.
2. Check out this beautiful video about "the water of life" from the Bible Project: <https://bibleproject.com/videos/water-of-life/>.