

A CASUAL ENCOUNTER

Jesus and the Samaritan Woman
John 4:1-15, 39-42
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INTRODUCTION

1. The **painful** history of Samaria and Judea
2. The **prominence** of the Samaritan woman in the gospel

A. A SAMARITAN'S BURDEN

1. Her background was profiled **ethnically** (v. 4)
2. Her location was avoided **geographically** (v. 4)
3. Her status was despised **morally** (v. 6, 17)
4. Her history defined her **destiny** (v. 9)

B. A SAMARITAN'S BLESSING

1. Jesus **sought** the woman intentionally (v. 4)
2. Jesus broke **social** expectations by associating with the woman (v. 6-9)
3. Jesus shared to her the message of **salvation** (v. 10-15)
4. Jesus elevates the woman's **self-worth** (v. 39-42)

CONCLUSION

TABLETALK QUESTIONS

1. Jews and Samaritans have a storied history of hostility for more than 500 years. How has this history played a significant role with the meeting of Jesus and the Samaritan woman?
2. **Read John 4:3-6.** John 4:4 says, “Jesus had to go through Samaria.” This is not the conventional and comfortable path to go from Judea to Galilee, but why did Jesus take this path? What does this journey tell us about our “missionary” task as Christ-followers?
3. **Read John 4:3-6.** What is the background (cultural, ethnic, marital, vocation, spiritual, etc.) of this Samaritan woman? If she was someone we were to meet today casually (coffee shop, gym, grocery or in school) how would she be like? What does this passage tell us about Jesus Christ’s passion, priority and purpose?
4. **Read John 4:10-15.** In this passage, Jesus used a trivial topic of water as a gateway conversation towards the need for salvation. How can we apply this principle today using casual conversation to lead towards the need for salvation?
5. **Read John 4:39-42.** “One person can make a difference” is a statement that appears impossible. How does this passage support this statement?
6. Close the Life Group by praying for one another that God will use our casual encounters to lead someone to the power of the gospel.