

John 4:1-42 ESV

This conversation stands out for three reasons:

- 1) It is the longest recorded conversation Jesus has with anyone in the gospels.
- 2) The placement of this story – it is recorded right after Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus. Jesus came to reach the UP and OUT and the DOWN and OUT.
- 3) The message of this story – Jesus is the Son of God who has come to save sinners!

John 3 teaches us that there is no one beyond the NEED for grace.
John 4 teaches us that there is no one beyond the REACH of grace.

John 20:30-31 ESV – Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 4 gives us a glimpse of the humanity of Jesus. Jesus was weary from His journey.

Hebrews 4:15 ESV – For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

The conversation falls into two major sections:

- 1) Jesus gives living water (vv. 7-15).
- 2) Jesus calls for true worship (vv. 16-26).

Jesus is willing to cross any barrier necessary to reach the lost! Are we?

Salvation is not a reward that you earn by works; it is a gift you receive by God's grace.

Jeremiah 2:12-13 ESV – Be appalled, O heavens, at this be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the Lord, 13 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Isaiah 55:1 ESV – "Come, everyone who thirsts come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
Jesus alone offers water that is INTERNAL and ETERNAL.

John 7:37-39 ESV – On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as[a] the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" 39 Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

The good news of salvation, if it is to be enjoyed, must be preceded by us embracing the bad news of sin.

The weary Jesus is the omniscient God who knows everything about this woman's life!

Deuteronomy 18:18 ESV – I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.

True worship is not about where you are or what you think; it is about God seeking true worshipers!

Real worship is rooted in a deep, personal experience with God that goes beyond going through the motions of ritual (IN SPIRIT) AND on the basis of His divine revelation in His Word (IN TRUTH).

Worship must be on God's terms, not ours!

John 8:57-58 ESV – So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

Isn't it ironic that the disciples, who are supposed to be evangelists, are preoccupied with non-issues, while the Samaritan woman they were worrying about goes home to do some evangelizing? Wouldn't it also be ironic if the people we are most worried about are fulfilling the mission better than we are?

God starts out with one lamb per person (garden). Then one lamb per household (Passover). Then one lamb for the whole nation (Day of Atonement). Then one lamb for the whole world (Jesus)!