

Living Water.

Oct 18th & 19th, 2025



Read John 4:1-42.

1. Who do you think of when you hear the word “rivalry”? (Think history, literature, pop culture, sports, etc.) What is usually the attitude and behavior of rivals towards one another?
2. The Jews and the Samaritans were not exactly on good terms. Historically, the Samaritans had been conquered by the Assyrians (722-721 B.C.) and the area became populated by people viewed by the Jews as “half-breeds”, not fully Jewish and whose religion had been tainted by false religion. What is the significance of Jesus, a Jew, intentionally going into this space?
3. Usually women came to draw water earlier in the day or later in the day when the heat of the sun was not as intense. What time is this woman at the well? What does this tell you about her?
4. John makes the note in **verse 9** that Jews and Samaritans did not associate with each other (and never share from the same cup!). How does Jesus break the cultural norms (but not the moral law) of the day?

5. What do you observe about Jesus’ dialogue with the woman? How does it progress?
6. Why do you think Jesus brings up her husband? What would your reaction be if you felt exposed in such a conversation? How does the woman try to change the course of the conversation? What does the woman come to understand?
7. What has changed between the woman we see initially and the woman in **verse 28-30**?
8. As we encounter and engage with people, what does Jesus want us to realize according to **verse 35**? What is the role of a sower and reaper and what part does that play in sharing Jesus with others?
9. When you think of the ideal evangelist, what or who comes to mind? How does this woman serve the role of an evangelist and what is the outcome in **verse 39**?
10. We all have imperfect pasts (and presents) that may be cause for pain, embarrassment or shame. We may think that our past disqualifies us from pointing to Jesus, but how does this story with the woman at the well change that narrative?