

HOW TO LOVE LIKE JESUS

STUDY GUIDE

John 4:1-30

Observation questions

1. What time of day did the Samaritan woman come to the well, and why might that timing be significant?
2. What did Jesus mean when He said, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water”?
3. How did the woman respond after Jesus revealed details about her personal life?
4. What did Jesus say about where true worship should take place?

Interpretation questions

1. Why did Jesus choose to travel through Samaria when it was culturally unexpected for a Jew to do so?
2. What did Jesus mean when He said, “the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father”?
3. How does the woman’s shift from hiding her past to publicly testifying about Jesus illustrate the power of encountering living water?
4. Why were the disciples surprised that Jesus was speaking with the Samaritan woman, and what does their reaction reveal about their understanding of His mission?

CAN YOU HANDLE THE WEIGHT?

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Application questions

1. Divine timing often intercepts moments when we try to hide or avoid facing our deepest needs. What is one area in your life where you've been trying to control the timing or avoid dealing with something God wants to address?
2. Jesus told the woman that true worship isn't about location but about spirit and truth. How can you move beyond religious routines or cultural traditions to cultivate a heart posture of genuine worship in your daily life?
3. Thirst can hide behind seemingly respectable things like success, busyness, or identity. What "well" have you been returning to that looks sufficient but leaves your soul unsatisfied?
4. The woman left her water jar—a symbol of her old life and efforts—behind when she encountered Jesus. What is one thing you feel God is inviting you to leave behind so you can fully receive what He wants to give you?
5. The disciples were confused about why Jesus was engaging with someone who didn't look or think like them. When was the last time you felt critical or uncomfortable around someone who is spiritually thirsty, and how can you respond with compassion instead of judgment?
6. Jesus met the woman in her place of shame and offered her a new identity. How can you embrace the truth that your past doesn't disqualify you from God's purpose?
7. The woman's testimony drew others to Jesus. Who in your life needs to hear about the living water you've experienced, and how can you share it with humility and boldness?