



FIRST LIGHT CHURCH

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Date: 9/18/2022

Series: Who Is This Man?

Text: John 4:7-26

BIG IDEA: Jesus is the Messiah.

ICEBREAKER: Share a time when you visited a place with a different culture than your own. What were some of the feelings you experienced?

CONTEXT: Jesus goes out of His way to meet a Samaritan woman at a community well. Breaking social and cultural norms, Jesus offers her the gift of living water and reveals to her that He is the Messiah.

PASSAGE: Have volunteers read John 4:7-26.

DISCUSSION:

1. What is your favorite sentence or phrase in this passage of Scripture? Why does it grab your attention?
2. What tensions do you find in this story?
3. "When reading John chapter 4, it is important to understand that the Samaritans and the Jews had a long and difficult relationship as people. Though both traced their ancestry and religion back to Moses, the Samaritans and Jews thought different mountains were the sacred places of worship (Mt. Gerizim versus Mt. Zion), used slightly different Scriptures (The Torah – or first five books of the Bible – versus our entire Old Testament), and had a great dislike for one another culturally. It is also important to know that Jewish men did not relate much publicly with women, whether Jewish or otherwise." (Pastor Matt Erickson)

With this in view, read verses 1-8. What do you learn about Jesus?

4. Why do you think Jesus "had" to go through Samaria (verse 4)?
5. How did Jesus strike up a conversation with the woman? Why do you think He began that way?
6. Jesus offered the woman the gift of living water which would give lasting satisfaction. This certainly piqued her curiosity. What do you think Jesus was trying to get at by talking about living water? (Read John 7:37-39.)
7. In verses 16-18, Jesus revealed that He knew all about the woman's complex life story. How do you feel when you think about the fact that Jesus knows your whole life story?
8. When Jesus told the woman all about her life, she changed the conversation and asked Him about God and worship (verse 20). Why do you think she did this?
9. Jesus revealed that the location of worship would no longer be important. Instead, God is seeking people that worship Him in spirit and truth (verses 21-24). How can we worship God in spirit and truth?
10. Why do you think Jesus chose to reveal Himself as the Messiah to this woman (verse 26)?

APPLICATION:

Jesus told the Samaritan woman that the water from the community well could only offer short-term life and satisfaction. He offered her the gift of living water that produces eternal life and will never run dry.

1. Where in your life are you experiencing extreme thirst, and nothing seems to satisfy it? What would it look like for the Holy Spirit to be like living water in those areas?
2. What does it mean for you to know that Jesus offers living water that never runs dry?

K4 CONNECTION:

Seeing 1,000 families restored to a right relationship with God will require us to build relationships with people who are not like us. The Samaritan woman was an outsider, yet Jesus intentionally went out of His way to meet her. Who are the outsiders in your life that you are uncomfortable interacting with? Ask God to soften your heart and give you the courage to lay aside your differences so you can share the Gospel message with them.

CARE AND PRAY:

- Pray for those in our faith family who are sick or injured.
- Share any prayer requests.