God and Man Through the Bible – Session 14

Jesus and The Woman at the Well

Introduction

In the previous lesson we learned about Jesus and Nicodemus. In this lesson Jesus interacts with a Samaritan woman. She would have been despised in the Jewish community, but Jesus treats her with dignity, while not ignoring her past life choices.

Read John 4:1-15

- 1. Why do you think Jesus chose to go through Samaria? (verse 4) Do we try to avoid our enemies? What human qualities do we see in Jesus, in these verses (verses 6,7,8)
- Does Jesus answer the woman's question, or does he direct her to what is more important? What cultural norms did Jesus break? (verse 9) Jesus responds to the woman and asks a question? Why do you think He asked this unusual question? (verse 10)
- 3. What do you think "living water: means? Note: In the Old Testament (<u>Jeremiah 2:13</u>) God refers to Himself as the "fountain of living water".
- 4. Observe how the woman changes the discussion about living water to formal, religious questions. (verse 12) What does Jesus say to redirect the conversation back to living water? (verses 13,14) Why do you think people often try to redirect spiritual discussions?
- 5. Is "living water" the same as "the water I will give"? (verse 14) Does the woman understand yet?

Read John 4: 16-24

- 6. Again, we see Jesus redirect the conversation (look at verse 15) Why do you think Jesus told her to call her husband? (verse 16) What kind of history did she have with men? Jesus was pointing out her deeper needs and what was her reply? (verse 17)
- The woman again turns the conversation to religious questions and away from herself. (verses 19,20) Do you think that the location of where we worship is important? What do you think Jesus means when He said true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth? (Verse 23)

Read John 4: 25-30; 39-42

- 8. What do you think Jesus meant when in verse 26 He said, "I am he."
- 9. Do you think this verse answers the first question in this sheet? (verse 42)

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10. What do you think Jesus' disciples realized through this experience of seeing many Samaritans come to believe in Jesus? Do you think that one changed life can affect the lives of many others?

Fill in the Blanks

Jesus met a Samaritan _____ beside a _____.

Previously, the woman had _____ husbands.

Jesus said, "whoever drinks the ______ I give them will never ______. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to ______ life."

Many of the people that lived in the town ______ because of the woman's ______.

For Personal Reflection:

This woman did not have a good history of relationships with men. She was surprised that Jesus knew about her life. What secrets would you want to hide from Jesus? Do you think that Jesus is still offering this living water to people today? How can we get it and enjoy it? Do you believe we can have eternal life? According to Jesus, how can we get it?

True or False

- a. The well where Jesus met the woman was known as "Jacob's well."
- b. At first, the woman thought that Jesus was a priest
- c. Jesus said that we "must worship in Spirit and in truth."
- d. Many people in the town became believers.

For Further Reading:

What Can We Learn from the Woman at the Well?