

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "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." - JOHN 4:7-10

FELLOWSHIP

(Start the conversation and get to know more about the people in the group. You can choose to answer one question.)

1. *What is something you carry with you everywhere?*
2. *Think about people in your community who are not friends but who you might interact with on a daily basis (at the grocery store, the bus drivers or others from different backgrounds than you). Is there someone who stands out in your mind? Why do you think so?*

MEDITATE AND PROCLAIM

(Scripture to be gleaned from and how we can apply the Word in our lives and encourage others to do the same)

In John 4, Jesus interacts with the woman at the well, a Samaritan. In this interaction, He exemplifies what it means to be a witness in Samaria (the country next door to Judea). Read John Chapter 4 then discuss the following:

DISCUSS: WHAT TYPES OF PEOPLE DOES CHRIST'S EXAMPLE TEACH US TO REACH OUT TO?

DISCUSS: WHAT ARE SOME FEARS THAT KEEP US FROM REACHING OUT TO THESE PEOPLE?

DISCUSS: HOW CAN WE ADDRESS THESE FEARS IN WAYS THAT ALLOW US TO BE A WITNESS TO PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFERENT FROM US?

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. - ACTS 1:8

The woman at the well was a Samaritan, from a different culture and a nation that Jews looked down on. Yet Jesus spoke to her and asked her questions, allowing her to tell her story and speaking truth into her life when the opportunity presented itself. Jesus was not afraid to interact with her and as a result was able to minister to the whole town. Similarly, when our focus is on communicating the Gospel, God's Spirit can work through our interactions and transform people's lives.

DISCUSS: WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN SHOW GOD'S LOVE TO PEOPLE OUTSIDE YOUR COMMUNITY WHO ARE FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS THAN YOU?

DISCUSS: IS THERE A SPECIFIC PERSON THAT GOD IS REMINDING YOU OF, AND WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ENCOURAGE HIM OR HER?

PRAY

(Remember to do this. Pray for one another; for everyone to live out the Word and for any other specific prayer needs)

Ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit to enable you to be an effective witness through the way you live. Pray for acquaintances or those you know from another culture who do not know Jesus yet, and ask God for the timing to share the hope that you have in Christ.



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