

Story Time - Read the story to the children

Lesson 184: THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

JOHN 4:1-42

Jesus knew that the Pharisees had heard that he was making and baptizing more disciples than John. (Actually, Jesus was not baptizing people. His disciples were.) So he left the Judean countryside and went back to Galilee. Jesus had to go through Samaria. He arrived at a city in Samaria called Sychar. Sychar was near the piece of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's Well was there. Jesus sat down by the well because he was tired from traveling. The time was about six o'clock in the evening. A Samaritan woman went to get some water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink of water." (His disciples had gone into the city to buy some food.) The Samaritan woman asked him, "How can a Jewish man like you ask a Samaritan woman like me for a drink of water?" (Jews, of course, don't associate with Samaritans.) Jesus replied to her, "If you only knew what God's gift is and who is asking you for a drink, you would have asked him for a drink. He would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you don't have anything to get water with, and the well is deep. So where are you going to get this living water? You're not more important than our ancestor Jacob, are you? He gave us this well. He and his sons and his animals drank water from it." Jesus answered her, "Everyone who drinks this water will become thirsty again. But those who drink the water that I will give them will never become thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give them will become in them a spring that gushes up to eternal life." The woman told Jesus, "Sir, give me this water! Then I won't get thirsty or have to come here to get water." Jesus told her, "Go to your husband, and bring him here." The woman replied, "I don't have a husband." Jesus told her, "You're right when you say that you don't have a husband. You've had five husbands, and the man you have now isn't your husband. You've told the truth." The woman said to Jesus, "I see that you're a prophet! Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain. But you Jews say that people must worship in Jerusalem." Jesus told her, "Believe me. A time is coming when you Samaritans won't be worshiping the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem. You don't know what you're worshiping. We Jews know what we're worshiping, because salvation comes from the Jews. Indeed, the time is coming, and it is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. The Father is looking for people like that to worship him. God is a spirit. Those who worship him must worship in spirit and

truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming. When he comes, he will tell us everything." (Messiah is the one called Christ.) Jesus told her, "I am he, and I am speaking to you now." At that moment his disciples returned. They were surprised that he was talking to a woman. But none of them asked him, "What do you want from her?" or "Why are you talking to her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back into the city. She told the people, "Come with me, and meet a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could he be the Messiah?" The people left the city and went to meet Jesus. Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, have something to eat." Jesus told them, "I have food to eat that you don't know about." The disciples asked each other, "Did someone bring him something to eat?" Jesus told them, "My food is to do what the one who sent me wants me to do and to finish the work he has given me. 'Don't you say, 'In four more months the harvest will be here'? I'm telling you to look and see that the fields are ready to be harvested. The person who harvests the crop is already getting paid. He is gathering grain for eternal life. So the person who plants the grain and the person who harvests it are happy together. In this respect the saying is true: 'One person plants, and another person harvests.' I have sent you to harvest a crop you have not planted or worked for. Other people have done the hard work, and you have followed them in their work." Many Samaritans in that city believed in Jesus because of the woman who said, "He told me everything I've ever done." So when the Samaritans went to Jesus, they asked him to stay with them. He stayed in Samaria for two days. Many more Samaritans believed because of what Jesus said. They told the woman, "Our faith is no longer based on what you've said. We have heard him ourselves, and we know that he really is the savior of the world."

184. THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

JOHN 4:1-42



"Jesus tells the woman at the well, 'Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst.'" *John 4:1-42*

184. THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

JOHN 4:1-42

MEMORY VERSE:

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”

JOHN 4:24

Review Questions

True or False

1. Jesus left Judea and went again to Africa.
2. Jesus came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near some land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph .
3. Jacob’s house was there.
4. A Samaritan woman came there to Jacob’s well to get water and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”
5. Jesus said to the woman, “If you knew what God’s gift is, and who is asking you for a drink, you would have asked him for a drink, and he would have given you living water.

Questions

1. What did the woman say to Jesus when He told her that if she knew who He was, she would be asking Him for a drink? Did she tell him that he didn’t have anything to get the water with? And then did she ask Him where this ‘living water’ was?
2. Did Jews talk to Samaritans in those days?
3. What kind of water did Jesus say He would give the woman? Was it living water?
4. What did Jesus say when the woman told Him that they knew that the Messiah was coming, and when He came He would tell them everything?
5. Where did the woman go, and what did she do after Jesus told her about her five husbands, and the man she was with now?
6. Did more Samaritans come to hear Jesus because of the woman telling them that He was a prophet? What happened after they came to hear Him?
7. What do you think it means when Jesus told His disciples that the fields are ready to be harvested? What kind of ‘crops’ do you think He was talking about?

Lesson 184 Activity & Discussion

ACT IT OUT!!

Have the children act out today's story.

Characters:

Jesus

Samaritan woman

A few disciples

A few Samaritans (the Samaritans can be the same children who were acting as the disciples earlier)

Jesus – Goes and sits down in a chair.

Samaritan woman – comes to the 'well' where Jesus is and starts to draw out water.

Jesus – "Give me a drink"

Samaritan woman – "How can a Jewish man like you ask me for a drink?"

Jesus – If you knew who was asking you for a drink, you would ask ME for a drink and I would give you living water.

Samaritan woman – Where will you get this living water?

Jesus – If you drink the living water I will give you, you will never be thirsty again!

Samaritan woman – Where can I get this water? I want some now!

Jesus – where is your husband?

Samaritan woman – I don't have a husband.

Jesus – That's right. You have had five husbands, and the man you're with now isn't your husband.

Samaritan woman – I think you're a prophet!! I know when the Messiah comes, He will tell us everything.

Jesus – I'm him, and I'm talking to you now!

The Samaritan woman rushes off to tell all the other Samaritans

Samaritan woman – There is a man at Jacob's well that told me everything I ever did! Come and see him!!

(All the Samaritans come to see Jesus)

Disciples – Jesus, eat something.

Jesus – My food is to do God's will. You know when the crops will be ready to harvest, but I tell you they are ready now!

PRAYER Lead the children in a prayer asking the Lord to fill them with the living water of His Holy Spirit. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity to do so.