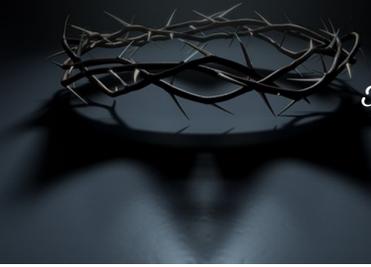


# MESSIAH

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



*Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?* John 4:29

Week 3  
The Woman at the Well

### ICE BREAKER/INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS

- ◆ It is always meaningful to be recognized or known by someone significant. If you could choose to be known by a famous person, who would that be? Why?

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- ◆ Who in your life knows you best? How comfortable are you being vulnerable with that person? With others?

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### DISCUSSION

1. Read [John 4:1-5](#). Jesus had just begun His public ministry, gathering disciples and telling the people about God's love for them. How would you describe the pressures Jesus and His disciples were facing? Where did they go?

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If you or someone in your group has a map of Judea and Samaria in Jesus' day, locate Aenon where John the Baptist was baptizing, the area of Judea, Sychar in the region of Samaria and Cana in Galilee where Jesus was headed. The Jews avoided Samaria by traveling on the east side of the Jordan River. The Samaritans were a mixed race of Jewish and Arab descent who worshipped God their own way on Mount Gerizim. They were considered "unclean" by the Jews. Jesus had a choice of routes to get to Galilee and He chose to travel through Samaria.

2. What do the words in John 4:4, "he had to go" tell you about Jesus' reason for going into Samaria, a place forbidden to faithful Jews?

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3. What does the fact that Jesus goes to Samaria tell you about how He is going to impact traditional ways of living and interacting with people?

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4. Read [John 4:6-15](#). How was Jesus feeling? What time of day was it?

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5. People generally drew water at the end of the day, not at noon in the heat of the day. This meeting between Jesus and the woman in Sychar allowed Him to have a private conversation with her. What did Jesus ask her (vs. 7)? How did she answer? How does Jesus steer the conversation beyond water from the well? How did the woman understand Jesus' description of "living water" at first? (Note: running water from a stream or river was often called "living water" as opposed to well water.)

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6. Read [John 4:16-19](#). How does Jesus turn the conversation at this point? What is He showing the woman about Himself? What do you think she might really be thirsty for? How might the woman feel vulnerable to Jesus?

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7. How is Jesus setting the stage to introduce her to Himself as God’s Messiah? How is He persistent, even relentless, in guiding the woman to an encounter with God’s Messiah? What has the woman learned about God’s Messiah?

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8. Read [John 4:20-26](#). Here Jesus comes to the destination to which He has been leading the woman. What is He telling her about true worship? What relationship with God is Jesus offering the woman?

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9. How would you summarize the woman’s encounter with Jesus the Messiah?

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10. Read [John 4:28-30; 39-42](#). What did the woman tell others? What was the impact of the her personal experience with Jesus? What was the key to her transformation? Why?

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### **ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION AND APPLICATION**

1. Who do you avoid because they are different from you—because their culture makes you uncomfortable, because their beliefs are different from yours...? How do you think Jesus looks at these people?

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2. What things in your life does Jesus know about? What are you thirsty to receive from Jesus? How have you seen God pursue a relationship with you? What does this tell you about His love for you, in spite of those things you hide in your life?

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3. How would you define your relationship with Jesus? What might be keeping you from a more personal relationship with Him?

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4. What have you done with the gift of a relationship with Jesus that has been offered to you? What transformation can happen in your life as you draw closer to Jesus, the Messiah, and trust in His love for you? Who will be impacted by you openly sharing what your relationship with Jesus has done in your life?

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### **PRAYER**

As a group or in huddles of two or three, pray for each other. Pray that God would open your eyes to see Jesus’ relentless love for you and His strong desire to meet your thirst for forgiveness and intimacy with Him. Pray for the people you have identified as those you would like to invite to “Come and See” the Messiah on Easter.

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