

## Discussion/Reflection Questions

1. Jesus and the woman in John 4 happened to be in the same place at the same time. As each of us reflects on our lives, especially our encounters with God, we may see that we were in the right place at the right time. But what about the times where it appears it was the wrong place at the wrong time. How do you understand these difficult times in your life?
2. Jesus was a controversial person who broke most of the established norms of his society. Do you think that people who follow the example of Jesus today will also be viewed as radicals who break societal norms? If “yes,” which norms should we be willing to break?
3. The story behind the story indicates that this woman had been searching for something(s) in her life. Yet her life appears to have been one disappointment after another? How does your life appear in the rearview mirror? Is it a life of all good things, or all bad things, or a mix of both? In what ways are you able to see God bringing something good out of the “bad” things in your life?
4. John 4:26 indicates that the woman was expecting the Messiah to bring *explanations*. Many of us look to God for *explanations* for the things of life. John’s gospel does not indicate to us that Jesus provided the explanations the woman wanted – instead he provided enough information for her to be able to trust him. What about you? Are you able to exercise faith in God even when there are not enough clear explanations?
5. John 4:39 – 42 indicate that many people became believers because of the testimony of the woman. They came to personally believe in Jesus as the Savior. In the final analysis this is a choice you must make too: The choice to make Jesus Savior and Lord of your life. Why not make that choice today?

## Conversations with Jesus (IV)

Pastor Alan Robinson, December 7, 2008

### John 4:1-26 (church Bible page 752)

(10) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

(11) "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? (12) Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?"

(13) Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, (14) but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

(15) The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

(16) He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

(17) "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. (18) The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

(19) "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. (20) Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

(21) Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. (22) You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. (23) Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. (24) God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

(25) The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

(26) Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."

