



## Dig Deeper Study Guide

### Sermon

Conversations with Jesus-  
Who did Jesus talk with  
and what does this teach  
us?

#### The Woman at the Well

John 4:1-15

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember  
about this sermon...

Monday 1/21/13

John 4:3-5

Here we hear that Jesus is traveling from Judea to Galilee. This northerly route took him right through Samaria, the hated region for all Judeans. Samaritans were hated and to be avoided at all costs! In the Old Testament this was the very sight of the parcel of land given to Joseph by his father Jacob. There is obviously a great history here, but in Jesus' day it was a place to be avoided. And yet Jesus goes right through the heart of Samaria and into the town of Sychar on his journey. Do you avoid hated and dangerous places? Whom do you avoid?

Tuesday 1/22/13

John 4:6

This was the location of Jacob's well and Jesus was thirsty. He would have known about the location of this well, so he probably traveled this way to be able to stop and get a drink as he traveled on his journey. John tells us that Jesus was weary from the journey, which would have been 3 days in length! We also hear another important detail: it was about the sixth hour. According to the Jewish clock, this placed Jesus at the Jacob's well around high noon. It was hot, Jesus was weary and he wanted a drink from Jacob's well. Where do you find refreshment for your thirst?

Wednesday 1/23/13

John 4:7

Now a woman of Samaria was at this well, too, at the same time Jesus was there. This was unusual because it was in the heat of the day. Women came to draw water either early in the morning or late in the afternoon to avoid the draining heat of the midday. Not only was this Samaritan woman at the well when Jesus was there, but he actually had the audacity to speak with her! This would have been considered a great no-no for two reasons--she was a woman and a hated Samaritan! Why did Jesus risk talking to her?



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

*Who are the Samaritans of our modern day?*

*What traditions did Jesus break by talking to this woman at the well?*

*What was it about Jesus' conversation that most impressed this woman?*

*With whom do you identify in this story?*

*What is Jesus saying to you?*

Thursday 1/24/13

John 4:9

This woman, whose name we never hear, knows that Jesus should not be talking to her. She fully knew the Jewish tradition that men did not speak to women in public. And she also knew of the hatred between the Samaritans and the Judeans. She says it clearly, "For the Jews do not associate with Samaritans." Who are the Samaritans of our day? Who are we told not to associate with today?

Friday 1/25/13

John 4:10-12

Jesus' response is clear and yet somewhat quizzical. He says that if she knew the gift of God, and who Jesus was, then she would receive living water. She notices then that he has no bucket to draw water from the well. So she asks where do you get this living water. Then she asks Jesus if he is greater than Jacob, for whom this well was named and who is obviously a great forefather in their tradition. Is Jesus greater than Jacob? Where does Jesus rank in your priorities?

Saturday 1/26/13

John 4:13-14

Jesus responds to the woman by stating the obvious, those who come to this well are going to be thirsty again and will have to come back to draw water again. But whoever drinks of the water he gives will be like a well within her springing up into everlasting life. Think about this. We all need water to survive and live. But are you drinking the eternal life-giving and everlasting water that Jesus gives? Are you thirsty spiritually? Many people search for meaning and purpose in their life. Jesus provides an everlasting water that quenches our souls and provides meaning and purpose in our lives. Drink from this everlasting well and your life will never again be the same!