

# Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

May 20, 2020

## Notes on John 4:1-10

**1** When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John,

**2** (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)

**3** He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee.

**4** And he must needs go through Samaria.

**5** Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.

**6** Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour.

**7** There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.

**8** (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)

**9** Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

**10** Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

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Pastor Tom gave us only one question to be pondering tonight:

How willing are you to move out of your comfort zone if God would ask you to?

### Verses 1-3

**1** When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John,

**2** (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)

**3** He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee.

\*There will be times when the Holy Spirit tells you to move on from a situation such a relationship, job, home ....

### **Matthew 18:21 -22**

“21 Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

22 Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.”

\*Jesus tells us to keep on forgiving, for an unlimited number of times, but God can still say it is time to move on, move past a situation.

\* In verses 1 - 3, Jesus had forgiving all these people who were trying to create decision between His disciples and John the Baptist’s disciples. But Jesus also knew it was time to move on and travel to Samaria.

\*Even for us there are factions of division - kids, family, co-workers, church members.

\*We, ourselves, cannot fix these people who cause division. God is the only one who can fix them and He doesn’t need our help. People have free choice/will.

\*No matter what Jesus would say to them, the dividers would not change their minds, so...Jesus moved on.

### **Verse 4**

#### **And he must needs go through Samaria.**

\*Something was going on in Samaria. That was the reason Jesus needed to go there. Sometimes it is tough to understand why God does what He does. But there was a reason for everything Jesus did and there was a definite reason why Jesus took a detour into Samaria.

\*(If you want to learn more about Samaria/Samaritans - Google it)

\* In summary, there was division between the Samaritans and the Jews that began as a family fight/feud. Similarly, we have many different Protestant denominations because of ‘family’ conflicts; when beliefs differ, new church is started.

\*Since Jesus went to a place where a good Jew would never go, He surely had a good reason for doing so.

## **Verse 5 - 6**

**5 Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.**

**6 Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour.**

\*Jacob's Well

- on ancient, sacred ground in city of Sychar
- given to Jacob by his son, Joseph
- Samaria was made up of tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh

\*Jesus' sitting at the well because He was tired, weary and thirsty demonstrates the human side of Jesus.

\*The 6th hour is noon. This is a very hot climate to be walking at noon.

## **Verse 7**

**There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.**

\*We must understand the cultural norms/rules that the Rabbis would have taught about why Samaritan women were considered unclean:

- Jews did not speak to Samaritans.
- Men did not speak to women in public places.
- Jewish men never spoke to Samaritan women.

Still Jesus speaks to the woman and asks for a drink of water!

## **Verse 8**

**(For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)**

\*The fact that Jesus was alone with this woman makes the encounter even more scandalous.

\*Because believers are held to a higher standard, we must be cautious in today's world - never be in a situation where you are alone with a member of the opposite sex.

## **Verse 9**

**Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.**

\*The woman asks why, how is this happening, who is this guy?

- She doesn't know him well
- She knows she shouldn't associate with him
- She may have had emotions such as- suspicion, fear, distrust, anger.

## **Verse 10**

**Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.**

\*There are 2 parts to this answer

1. The gift of God is salvation through Jesus Christ

Ephesians 2:8 says: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.

2. Who is this man...

John 14:6 says: Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

\*Jesus would give her living water

- our body is over 90% water
  - we can live without food but we cannot live without water.
  - this is not physical water but living water
  - living water = eternal life
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Discussion opened to hear answers to question:

\*How willing are you to move out of your comfort zone if God would ask you?

Group members offered situations such as talking to people in the doctor's office, speaking in front of a congregation, being a new pastor, when Pastor Tom volunteers us for new things, our new way of ministry using technology....

But all concluded that we can show our God-given potential when we do move out of our comfort zone. And sometimes we just need to be asked to do a job for God. And God will bless our efforts to trust Him...such as our broadened ministry outreach using technology these days.

Next week we will learn more about the reason Jesus went to Samaria.

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*May the Lord watch between me and thee,  
While we are absent one from the other.*