

## Woman at the Well – John 4

The Pharisees were upset that Jesus was winning more disciples than even John, and so Jesus decided to travel back to Galilee. As they traveled south they came to Samaria. Custom was that the Jews would not travel through Samaria but would travel around it. But Jesus walked his apostles right through the middle of Samaria.

Jesus was growing weary as they came to the town of Sychar. It was about noon, so Jesus sat down upon a well that had been dug by Jacob. He sent his disciples into the village to find food.

A woman from Samaria came to get water from the well. Jesus turned to her and said, “Will you give me a drink please?”

The woman replied, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?”

Jesus replied, “You don’t know God’s gift; and you don’t know who it is asking for a drink. If you did, you would have asked for a drink of the living water.”

“Sir, you don’t have anything to get water with, no bucket, no cup. Where do you think you would get this living water? Our father Jacob gave us this well. He drank from it himself. Do you think you are more important than he?”

Jesus answered, “All who drink this water will be thirsty again. But anyone who drinks of the water I give will never thirst again. The water I give will create a spring of water inside that will become eternal life.”

“Oh, sir, give me this water so that I will never thirst again. So that I will never have to come here for more water.’

Jesus replied, “Go get your husband and come back.”

The woman said, “I have no husband.”

And Jesus replied, “You speak the truth. You have no husband, but you have had five. And the man with whom you now live is not your husband.”

“Sir, I can see you are a prophet. So answer me this – My people say that when we worship we must go to the mountain. But your people say that we must worship at the temple in Jerusalem. Who is right?”

Jesus said, “Believe me, when I tell you that the time is coming when you will not worship on the mountain or in the temple. A new time is coming. True worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. They are the kind the Father is seeking.”

The woman said, “I do know that a Messiah is coming. He will be the Christ and when he comes, he will explain all of this to us.”

And then Jesus said, “The one to whom you speak is the Messiah.”

Just then Jesus disciples were returning. They saw that he had been talking with the Samaritan woman, but they didn’t ask him why.

The woman left her water jug behind and ran back to the village of Sychar. She called to the men, “Come, to the well. See a man who knows all that I have done. Could he be the Christ?”

Meanwhile, the disciples were trying to give Jesus food. But he replied, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.”

The disciples were confused. Had someone brought him food.

Jesus said, “My food is to do my Father’s work. I hear you say that in four months the harvest will come. But I say to you the time to harvest is now.”

And with that he pointed to the men of Sychar who were coming toward the well. The Samaritans approached Jesus and invited him to stay in their village. Jesus did stay with them for two days, answering their questions and teaching them. And many came to believe in the Messiah.