

Today's Message Notes: March 15, 2020

Title: "Jesus Welcomes A Thirsty Guest That None Would Have Expected"

Text: John 4—The Samaritan Woman

Intro: A well-known, modern parable—The one who gets the son gets it all.

- I. **Jesus knows who the Samaritan woman at the well is.**
 - A. We meet a lonely woman at a well and many like her.
 - B. Jesus doesn't look at the value of a person the same way others do.
 1. Luke 7:40-50 A woman anoints Jesus with oil
 2. Simon sizes her up as a 'sinful woman.'
 3. Simon sizes Jesus up as a failed prophet.
 4. The disciples size her up as wasteful.
 5. Jesus however praises her devotion.
 - C. Five broken marriages define this woman's life before she meets Jesus.
 1. Men were allowed to divorce their wives for trivial things like burning supper.
 2. This was likely in Samaritan culture too
 3. Rabbinical Law only lets a woman marry three times—she is "beyond redemption"
 4. Imagine how she feels about herself—a picture of many today.
 5. When Jesus confronts her sin He is also calling out the sins of the men of Sychar

- D. Good thing the disciples were sent away.
 1. When they return they were surprised Jesus was talking to a woman.
 2. Rabbis don't talk to women—but then again normal rabbis don't bless the little children either. (Mark 10:12-14)
 3. Jesus doesn't stress about the opinions of others.
 - a. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?"
 - b. "Isn't this the carpenter's son?"
 - c. We know the vibe.

II. So how about a drink of Living Water?

- A. Jesus sees a fixer upper, someone worth saving, someone He can't help but love. His appraisal is all that matters.
- B. Jesus takes the Samaritan woman to church at Jacob's well.
 1. Jacob's well is a spring-fed well, meaning the water was always moving, fresh, and never stagnant.
 2. Living water defined the well's character and unique nature—illustrates Jesus as living water.
 3. Jesus asks for a drink from a sinful, Samaritan woman.
 4. "I am a Samaritan woman and you are a Jew. How is it that you ask me for a drink?"
- C. Jesus offers her Living water and she catches on that He is claiming to be someone important, more important than her father Jacob who gave them the well.

- D. “Sir, give me this water.”
- E. Jesus takes her to the next level.
 - 1. “Sir, I have no husband.” –A partial truth at best.
 - 2. A part of her is still trying to hide—factually true but not the whole story.
 - 3. Jesus gently exposes her sin while at the same time revealing that He has divine knowledge of her true self.
 - 4. Jesus could go deeper but He is not trying to embarrass her, He is trying to save her.
 - 5. It’s enough to make the point.
 - 6. 1 John 1:8-9

- 2. Out of the heart come the things that make us clean or unclean.
- 3. James 1:22-27

- D. Worship is done in Truth- *aletheia*.
 - 1. It is a word that applies to one’s character.
 - 2. The truth is definitive of who Jesus is.
 - 3. The truth is His word is the truth that sets sinners free (John 8:32).
 - 4. To worship in spirit and in truth is to succeed at 1 John 3:18 “Dear children, let us not love with words or lip-service but with actions and in truth.”
- E. Then Jesus declared, 'I who speak to you am He.'"

III. The Father is worshipped in Spirit and in Truth.

- A. God doesn’t living on Mt. Gerizim, nor in Jerusalem.
- B. Salvation is however from the Jews of which Jesus clearly is.
 - 1. A Son of Abraham,
 - 2. of the tribe of Judah,
 - 3. A King in David’s Line
 - 4. It’s not in a where but in a *Who*
 - a. “I am...”
 - b. “...truth...”
- C. Worship is done in spirit....
 - 1. Worship in Spirit is two-fold.
 - a. Spirit of God,
 - b. spirit of your mind and heart.

Conclusion: A lesson from a little white car with lots of rust.

Taking it Home

- 1. Do you look at yourself as Jesus does? Perhaps too highly? Or perhaps not well-enough?
- 2. Think about your hopes for a future and how you imagined it. Did they turn out? How has reality impacted or shaped your faith in Jesus?
- 3. Where has the Lord blessed you with the opportunity to share Your faith openly? How did it bless you?

Further reading—Perhaps Reread John 4 and James 1