

10 July

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 9

 Let's hear your story

1. How can we know that Jews and Samaritans did not like each other? (**John 4:9b, For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.**)
2. How do we know it was unusual for a Jewish man to talk to a Samaritan woman? (**See John 4:27.**)
3. What are the two promises Jesus gives the woman in v.14? (**Whoever drinks of the water will never thirst, and have eternal life.**)
4. What gift of Holy Spirit did Jesus use in v.16? (**Word of knowledge.**)

 Let's go deeper

5. What does v.7 – 9 reveals about Jesus? (**That all people are valuable to God**)
6. How should we worship God according to v.23 – 24? (**In Spirit "be born-again" and in truth "God's Word, teachings of Jesus."**)
7. What did Jesus reveal to the woman in v.26? (**That He is the Messiah "Saviour"; the Christ "Anointed One" of God.**)
8. How did the people of her town believe in Jesus according to v.39? (**The people believed because of the woman's testimony.**)
9. Who reaped a harvest that Jesus sowed in v.43? (**Philip, see Acts 8.**)

 Let's apply this

10. John 4:25 – 26; The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, **"I who speak to you am He."**

The story of the woman at the well teaches us that God loves us, and as our Saviour He loves to forgive our sins, shame and guilt. God values us enough to actively seek us, to welcome us to intimacy, and to rejoice in our worship.

- Do you know that Jesus loves you and seeks a relationship with you?
- Ask Him to forgive your sins, shame and to make you a new person?
- Speak to your life group leader to help you with your decisions.

SUMMARY:

Gospel of John: Week 9 (The Samaritan woman at the well)

Read: John 4:1 – 42

v.1 – 4; There were three routes between Galilee and Jerusalem. (1) Along the coast, (2) along the Jordan river, or (3) straight through Samaria. The latter was the fastest and most direct. But the Jews and Samaritans hated each other (Jews called Samaritans dogs). The Jews avoided this route to prevent contracting some kind of ceremonial uncleanness.

v.5 – 9; Jacob purchased the land in Genesis 33:18 – 20. Jews considered Samaritans to be unclean and to use a Samaritan's bucket for water was considered unclean by Jews. She had five men and was living with a sixth. Most of the time women got water from the well in the morning or evening, not in the heat of the day. About noon is the time the woman in our story appears, perhaps so she wouldn't have to be subject to the constant abuse from the women in the town who despised her.

v.10; The word "gift" is *dōrea*, that which is given or transferred freely by one person to another; a word that stresses the freeness of a gift. God refers to Himself as "the fountain of living water" in Jeremiah 2:13; 17:13, and Psalm 36:9. Jesus uses the picture of living water to refer to the gift of the Holy Spirit in John 7:37 – 39.

v.11 – 15; Jesus makes two claims for those who drink this living water. They will never thirst, and they will have eternal life.

v.16 – 18; Jesus demonstrates the power of the Holy Spirit in using the gift of the word of knowledge. The supernatural gift of God that reveals specific knowledge about certain past or present events. It is the supernatural revealing of a fact in existence which cannot be seen, heard or revealed naturally.

v.19 – 24; Jesus says to the woman, the Father is seeking such (you) to worship Him. Jesus taught that only those who are born by the Holy Spirit are in the Kingdom of God, these "true worshipers" must also approach God by means of the Holy Spirit within them. In truth refers to embracing God's Word and Jesus' teachings.

v.25 – 30; Jesus declared Himself as the Messiah. The woman left her water jar at the well. Why? She is in such a hurry to tell her neighbours about the One she has discovered that she leaves everything behind to rush back to the town.

v.31 – 42; Many believed the woman's testimony. Jesus tells His disciples to become alert to the readiness of the harvest. When He says "harvest" He is talking about bringing people from unbelief to faith, from sin and destruction to eternal life. What began in Israel, spread to Samaria and continued with Philip in Acts 8.