



The Life of Jesus (12)

The Conversation
With A Samaritan
Woman (1)

Jn 3:14-16



The Conversation With A Samaritan Woman (1)

#1 Jesus Went Through Samaria

As He returned to Galilee from Judea, He went through Samaria.

“So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee. Now he had to go through Samaria.” (Jn 4:3-4)

It was unordinary for Him to do this because at that time, Jews never went through Samaria when they traveled between Judea and Galilee.

Samaria is between Galilee and Judea. So, the best way to go to Galilee from Judea is to go through the land of Samaria.

But, the Jews crossed the Jordan River, to get to Galilee from Judea or to Judea from Galilee.



#2 Jesus Went Through Samaria

The Jews always made a detour because they despised Samaritans.

After Solomon died, the kingdom of Israel was divided into two nations. The two kingdoms didn't get along, so the Israelites and the Judeans were hostile to each other.

What was worse, after northern Israel was destroyed by the Assyrians, the Israelites who lived in Samaria, the capital of northern Israel, lost their lineage.

As a result of the king of Assyria's immigration policy, people from many other regions immigrated to Samaria, lived there, and married the Israelites, leading to a mixture of races. That's why the Jews despised the Samaritans all the more and didn't consider them to be the same race.

So, it was taboo for the Judeans to go through Samaria or to talk to Samaritans. Yet Jesus disregarded this. Even though He was a Jew, He intentionally decided to go through Samaria, on His way to Galilee.

#3 A Samaritan Woman

Jesus not only went to Samaria, but also approached a Samaritan woman and talked to her.

When Jesus came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, He sat down by Jacob's well. When it was about noon, a Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. She seemed to avoid people for some reason and lived an isolated life. Jesus saw her, and started to talk to her.

Jesus: "Will you give me a drink?" (Jn 4:7)

The Samaritan Woman:
"You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (Jn 4:9)



#4 The Living Water

Jesus: “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and **he would have given you living water.**” (Jn 4:10)

In the Bible, water is used as an important symbol because it is absolutely necessary to sustain life. But, the water Jesus gives us is different from the water we drink because the living water satisfies the thirst of our souls and gives us spiritual life.

Jesus: “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but **whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life**” (Jn 4:13-14)

#5 The Living Water

Jesus was talking about spiritual water that satisfies our souls and gives us eternal life, but the woman didn't understand. In order to help her understand the meaning of water, Jesus asked her to call her husband.

“I have no husband” (Jn 4:17)

“You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband.” (Jn 4:17-18)

Jesus revealed the fact that she had had five husbands before and now lived with a sixth man to directly point out her problem. The real problem was her feeling of deep emptiness and loneliness. She had tried to fill the emptiness but it wasn't filled even through the six men.

So, the Samaritan woman represents all human beings in part. We all have spiritual emptiness and loneliness which only God can satisfy. Therefore, we should go to God to satisfy our spiritual thirst.

#6 The Living Water

Just as the woman tried to fill the emptiness through men, we pursue all kinds of worldly things to fill the emptiness.

What's worse, the more we try to fill the emptiness of our souls with worldly things, the more we will drift apart from God. And the more we're away from God, the more we feel the emptiness and keep trying to fill it with worldly things. And, this vicious circle keeps repeating.

But, the good news is that Jesus came to the world to break the vicious circle and give us true, heavenly satisfaction.

Just as Jesus intentionally talked to the Samaritan woman to give her true living water that satisfied her soul's thirst, Jesus comes to our lives and gives us true and eternal satisfaction of our souls.

“Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.” (Jn 7:37-38)

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Memory Verses

“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (Jn 4:13-14) (2)

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