

October 15, 2017

## Morning Overview

**Lesson:** *The Woman at the Well*

**Lesson Objective:** This week we take a look at Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well. This story has a lot to unpack about the Gospel. We see Jesus offer eternal life to the woman through an analogy, but she does not follow it. Finally, Jesus' abrupt stop to the conversation (Go get your husband!) registers something for the woman. As the conversation develops, the woman finally sees Jesus as the Messiah, but not by her own will or confession, only through Jesus' revelation. The woman immediately goes and tells her village that the Messiah has arrived. This aspect to the story is very unique in that her social condition (multiple husbands) had made her a social pariah (hence going to get water at Noon), but her testimony is believed after meeting and acknowledging Jesus. The village believes her words only to finally cast their complete belief in the One whom she spoke about, Jesus the Savior of the World. Each of us are like the Samaritan woman, desperate, sinful and looking to something else for fulfillment, until Jesus, the Deep Well, reveals himself to us and offers us the Living Water so that we become holy, blameless and beloved (Ephesians 5:26-27).

**Scripture:** John 4:1-27, 39-42

**Story:** Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 13 (Pages 277-279)

## 9:30am Sunday Schedule

**Opening Activity:** See instructions in classroom

**Cherub Church**

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165, 164, 163)

**Craft:** Woman at the Well Cup

**Supplies:** Paper cup, verse sticker, water drops (5), yarn, stapler, tape

- Instructions:**
1. Draw/color on paper cup to look like a well.
  2. Attach verse sticker to cup.
  3. Staple yarn to inside of cup.
  4. Attach 5 water drops to yarn (color drops if desired).



**Relay of the Day:** See instructions in classroom

**Snack**

## 11am Sunday Schedule

**Opening Activity:** See instructions in classroom

**Craft:** Woman at the Well Bag

**Supplies:** Paper bag, sticker, plastic cup, pipe cleaner, yarn, straw, stapler, tape

- Instructions:**
1. Attach pipe cleaner to bag to form handle.
  2. Tie one end of yarn to handle.
  3. Attach opposite end of yarn to straw with tape.
  4. Place straw through holes in bag (cup should rise and fall by rolling straw).
  5. Secure bag closed with staples.
  6. Attach sticker to bag.



**Cherub Church** for 3's (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165) – 11:40-11:55

**Relay of the Day:** See instructions in classroom

**Optional Activity:** See bin of squishy balls in classroom for ideas on reviewing catechism questions.

### **Story:** *The Woman at the Well*

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the transition question: Boys and girls, what do you like to drink when you are thirsty? (Allow time for answers) Well in our story today a woman meets Jesus at a well, and Jesus tells the woman she can drink living water and never thirst again. Let's read our story today and find out what Jesus is talking about...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story. Feel free to edit and adapt to your own style. Include props and teaching aids as you see fit.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

### **Teaching Summary:**

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- For many, many years God's people expected the Promised One – a King – to come and make all things right.
- Jesus traveled through the country of Samaria on His way to Galilee. We rested at Jacob's Well.
- A Samaritan woman came to the well in the heat of the day. This was abnormal, but due to her social condition of marrying multiple men (5). Jesus asked for a drink from her. She acknowledged the centuries of hate that existed between the Jews and Samaritans.
- Jesus offered the woman eternal life by comparing Himself to a well and eternal life to the living water in it. She did not understand his analogy.
- Finally, Jesus tells the woman to go and get her husband. At that point Jesus shares that He does know who she is even though she does not know who He is.
- The woman comes to recognize Jesus as the Messiah and goes to tell her village about Him.
- The village comes to see Jesus on the account of the woman's words. Many Samaritans come to believe in Jesus because this woman went to tell them. They said Jesus was the Savior of the World.

## Story

### **Transition**

Boys and girls, what do you like to drink when you are thirsty? (Allow time for answers) Well in our story today a woman meets Jesus at a well, and Jesus tells the woman she can drink living water and never thirst again. Let's read our story today and find out what Jesus is talking about...

### **The Woman at The Well**

Jesus spent much of his time telling people about the Good News (Gospel), that the Kingdom of God was near and that He was God's Son. Many people believed Jesus and wanted to be baptized. The religious teachers of the day, the Pharisees, heard all of this. They did not like what they were hearing. Jesus knew that the Pharisees had heard about him, so Jesus left a place called Judea and went back to Galilee. But, to get there he had to travel through the country of Samaria.

As Jesus traveled into Samaria, he stopped at a small town. The town was near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph and Jacob built a well there. The well was full of water and the whole town used it. Jesus was tired from his long trip, so he sat down beside the well. While Jesus was resting at the well, his followers went in town to buy some food. All of this was around lunchtime (Noon); the Sun was out and the day was very hot.

As Jesus continued to wait on his followers to return, a Samaritan woman came to the well to get some water. When Jesus saw her, he said to her, "I'm thirsty, can you please give me a drink." The woman said, "I am surprised that you ask me for a drink. You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan." Jews and Samaritans were not friends; in fact they did not like each other very much at all.

Jesus told the woman, "You don't know what God gives. And you don't know who asked you for a drink. If you knew, you would have asked me, and I would have given you living water." The Samaritan woman was very confused. She

did not know it was Jesus she was speaking to, or that He was God's Son. But she was very curious to know where to get living water.

The Samaritan woman mentioned to Jesus that Jacob's well was very deep. How could he get water from the well if he had no bucket or rope? She asked him, "Are you greater than Jacob, our father? Jacob is the one who built this well. He, his family and all of his sheep drank from this well." Jacob's well was deep and full of water. The Samaritan woman was wondering if Jesus knew of a better well, one full of water and life.

Jesus then answered the woman, "Every person who drinks from Jacob's well will be thirsty again. But whoever drinks the water I give will never be thirsty again." Jesus was telling the Samaritan woman about himself. Jesus was the Well that had living water, or to say it another way, Jesus was the only way to have eternal life. The woman immediately said to Jesus, "Give me this water. Then I will never be thirsty again. And I will not have to come back here to get more water." The Samaritan woman still did not understand what Jesus was saying!

Jesus then told her, "Go get your husband and come back here." The woman answered, "But I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right to say you have no husband. Really you have had five husbands!" The woman had told the truth to Jesus. And she saw that Jesus knew something about her even though He was a stranger. Jesus knows everything. He knew that this woman was very sinful and He knew that she needed eternal life. The Samaritan woman was amazed that Jesus knew about her. She talked to Jesus about how to worship God and where to worship Him. She thought a person could only worship God in one place, but that was not true. Jesus told her God wanted people to worship Him alone.

Then the woman said something very interesting to Jesus. "I know that the Messiah is coming." (Messiah is the One called Christ.) "When the Messiah comes, he will explain everything to us." And then Jesus said to her, "The Messiah is talking to you now. I am him."

Just then his followers came back from town. They were surprised because they saw Jesus talking with a woman. The woman left her water jar and went back to town. She said to the people of the town, "A man told me everything I have ever done. Come see him. Maybe he is the Christ!" So, the people left the town and went to see Jesus. Many of the Samaritans in that town believed in Jesus because this woman told them to come and see Him. They believed because of what the woman said: "He told me everything I have ever done." The Samaritans came to Jesus and begged him to stay with them. So he stayed there two days. Many more believed because of the things he said.

They said to the woman, "First we believed in Jesus because of what you told us. But now we believe because we heard him ourselves. We know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

## Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- Who was upset with Jesus teaching?
- What country did Jesus travel through?
- Where did Jesus meet the woman?
- Who built the well?
- Who did Jesus tell the woman to go and get?
- How many husbands did the woman have?
- What did Jesus offer the woman?
- What did the woman go and do after Jesus said He was the Messiah?
- What did the village do after seeing Jesus?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about God's love for us?

## Scripture Memory for October:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

## Catechism Questions (1-20)

## Hymn of the Month:

Amazing Grace