

“His Merciful Offer of Living Water”

John 4:1-42

February 23, 2014

Share-the-Love: (a ministerial theme today via Jason Gray)

1. Jason Gray: “It’s Good to Be Alive”
2. Jason Gray: “With Every Act of Love”

Intro: VIDEO: John 3:22-36 (last week’s context)

Series review

- a. Theological
- b. Christological
- c. Evangelical
- d. Supernatural
- e. Confrontational
- f. Universal
- g. Relational (last week)

Religionists stress religious rituals vs. relationship with the Redeemer!

They were so into John that they missed Jesus... (church vs. Christ!)

They didn’t want Jesus messing up their ministry!

This is a GREAT discipleship training passage

TODAY = “Merciful”

T/S: Let's go to today's text...

VIDEO: John 4:1-42

T/S: Context: vv.1-6

Conversation: vv.7-38

Commentary: vv.39-42

As we walk thru this text... note the flow:

- Samaria
- Sin/sinners
- Saturation
- Surprise
- Savior
- Sustenance
- Sow
- Send
- Stay
- Samaritans
- Surrender
- Salvation

Big Idea: *Sin, Surprise, SAVIOR, Surrender, Saved*

T/S: While it is true that EVERYONE need's Jesus... the other side of that coin is that ANYONE can come to Him – Amen!

CONTEXT:

4:1 Therefore when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John **2** (although Jesus Himself was not baptizing, but His disciples were), **3** He left Judea and went away again into Galilee. **4** And ***He had to pass through Samaria.*** **5** So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph; **6** and Jacob's well was there. So ***Jesus, being wearied*** from His journey, was sitting thus by the well. ***It was about the sixth hour.***

T/S: ***7 There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink."***

CONVERSATION:

8 For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy

food. ⁹ Therefore ***the Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?"*** (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ ***Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."***

¹¹ She said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water? ¹² ***You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself and his sons and his cattle?"*** ¹³ ***Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."***

¹⁵ The woman said to Him, ***"Sir, give me this water,*** so I will not be thirsty nor come all the way here to draw."

16 He said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here." 17 The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have correctly said, 'I have no husband'; 18 for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly."

VIDEO: ***What Is Sin?***

19 The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. **20** Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you *people* say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." **21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. 22** You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. **23** But **an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth**; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. **24** **God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.**" **25** The woman said to Him, **"I know that Messiah is**

coming He who is called Christ; when that One comes, He will declare all things to us. 26 **Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."**

27 At this point His disciples came, and **they were amazed that He had been speaking with a woman**, yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why do You speak with her?" 28 So **the woman left her waterpot, and went into the city and said to the men, 29 "Come and see** a man who told me all the things that I *have* done; **this is not the Christ, is it?"**

VIDEO: Jason G - ***Virtues of Weakness***

30 ***They went out of the city, and were coming to Him.***

31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." 32 **But He said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."** 33 So the disciples were saying to one another, "No one brought Him *anything* to eat, did he?" 34 **Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work.** 35 Do you not say, 'There

are yet four months, and *then* comes the harvest'? **Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest.** ³⁶ Already he who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for life eternal; so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. ³⁷ For in this case the saying is true, '**One sows and another reaps.**' ³⁸ ***I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor.***"

COMMENTARY:

³⁹ From that city **many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman** who testified, "He told me all the things that I *have* done." ⁴⁰ So when *the Samaritans* came to Jesus, they were asking Him to stay with them; and **He stayed there two days.** ⁴¹ **Many more believed because of His word;** ⁴² and they were saying to the woman, "***It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the world.***"

VIDEO: “*Falling Plates*”

Qt: But the Nicodemus story also serves as a twin with the Samaritan woman story that follows in chapter 4 (just as Cana is a twin story to the temple cleansing in chapter 2). Nicodemus is a Jew, a man, and a member of the higher social strata of Jewish society; in chapter 4 we meet a Samaritan, a woman, and someone from the lower social strata. Nicodemus could boast in his righteousness; the Samaritan woman stands as a sinner. The irony of the comparison is the relative success that Jesus discovers with each. Those whom one would think are least ready to understand and accept Jesus (i.e., the woman) embrace him, while the theologian who comes at night (Nicodemus) offers Jesus nothing but questions. As we saw in chapter 2, in Jerusalem Jesus finds limited interest and faith; when he travels away from Jerusalem (to Galilee and Samaria), surprising results occur.

John's historical reporting of these episodes is not simplistic. He writes to convert, so that his reader will grow in faith ([20:31](#)). Inasmuch as *every* episode is designed to speak to John's audience using the uniqueness of a historical figure (the educated, the out-cast, the poor, the wealthy), this is true of [John 3](#).

Nicodemus's encounter with Jesus is a drama describing one night in Jerusalem as well as any possible night anywhere.

- NIV Application Commentary

JDP Exegesis:

vv.1-3:

God/John bring the Pharisees back into focus

God wants us to know that Jesus' ministry is eclipsing John's...

God also wants us to know that Jesus did not physically baptize...

The Word specifies that the disciples did the baptizing...

Why?

Imagine the "pride-fights" between those baptized by Jesus vs. those baptized by the disciples...

(I'm just saying....)

There is a subtle but negative connotation associated with them...

NOTE: when the Pharisees "learned" Jesus "left"

This is another subtle but significant point...

Why?

v4. "had to" go

6. Jesus tired & sixth hour

7-9 "Samaritan" WOMAN... (disciples go to town for food & woman at the well is shocked the Jesus would ask her for water)

10 see Kyle Idleman... "H2O - Living Water"

Kyle Idleman:

Focus is on "he HAD to go thru Samaria"

The love of Christ comes to give people what they need... Him!

Focus on the Sovereignty of Jesus & the sin of the Samaritan woman...

She was a social outcast...
She was likely ridden with shame...

Focus on the oddity...

Men did not speak to women... especially:

Jew to Samaritan
Single man to “married” woman
Rabbi to lost person...

Jesus offers her “living water”

NOTE: like Nic at night, she is confused by the
“natural”

NOTE: your “water” will never satisfy... Mine will
last forever!

NOTE: she is willing & wanting His water (see the
Spirit at work!)

She is honest with Jesus and He rewards her with more
Light!

See her courage & His Christology

NOTE: she did NOTHING to merit this privilege &
opportunity (Grace)

We keep going back to the world’s wells... over & over &
over.

Still... it/they NEVER satisfy!

NOTE: she tries to avoid Jesus’ questions with “mis-
directions”

Jesus presses into the “personal” but she shifts to
“religion”

She wants to talk “mountains” when talking to the
Messiah...

She may think Jesus (His promises) are too good to
be true...

Let this encounter break down your pre-conceived notions!!!

To the lost... don't pre-judge Jesus...
To the found... don't pre-judge the lost (follow Jesus' example!)

NOTE: by revealing Himself (the Gospel), Jesus forces her to make a decision!

So it is with us... So it is with you today!
That Samaritan sinner "got it" and went and told others...
She is a "PERSON of Peace"

KEY: link this exchange back to the first disciples.... What do you want???

ANSWER: Drink from Me and you will never "want" for anything every again!

11 see her confusion

12 see parallel to Nic's knowledge & JB's disciple's works...
Now JACOB's well... Last week's error couldn't see Jesus thru John... Now it's Jacob... Here it is the "ministry mountain" that blocks the person's view from the "ministry's Messiah"

13-14 Jesus doesn't answer her question directly, He tells her more truth that she needs to hear... See the gospel promise (NOT the explanation)...

15 see confused , superficial "want to" (evidence that we can get the fact without the faith...)

16-18 see Jesus reveal His deity (like He did with Nathaniel) AND simultaneously launch the Great Commission!

19 see partial revelation... It sounds good but it doesn't save!

20 she gets caught up in "mountains" to the point that she (like Nic and JB's disciples) missed the Messiah!

21 Jesus is setting the stage for His first unsolicited, voluntary declaration of His deity! (Note: to a Samaritan woman no less)... See Christ's love for culture's "least of these". (VIDEO: Life saving station)

22 Jesus upholds the truth & special blessing that belongs to the Jewish people (and now the Church as well)
- what you do not know... Hebrew word for idol = "nothing"

23 PREGNANT Verse!!!

- **the hour** is coming (best to come)
- and has now come (Jesus)
- true worshippers (vs. false)
- true = worship Father in spirit & truth
- true = kind the Father seeks (only)

24 God is spirit (not mechanical)

- thus... True worshippers (vs. false)
- MUST WORSHIP
- must = in spirit & truth req. MIRACLE, MESSIAH, MISSION
- NOTE: repetition = emphasis

25 she demonstrates a knowledge of the "storyline" without a knowing of the Savior...

- NOTE: Religion is blind.
- NOTE: Knowledge is empty.
- NOTE: Expectation vs. Revelation!
- NOTE: God had prepared her... and now He is going to inform her, then He will equip her & send her!

26 Jesus' first public declaration that He is the Messiah/Christ!

- JB declared it but not Jesus
- Jesus accepted JB's witness
- Now Jesus tells His own truth!
- NOTICE: She keeps trying to divert Jesus away from the issue but Jesus keeps bringing her back to the truth she needs!
(Person of Peace strategy!)

27 His disciples return somewhat dumb-founded (like John the Baptist's disciples) because they too do not see the full scope of what is and is not going on...

Qt: "Whereas John's disciples were so caught up in John that they couldn't see Jesus... By sad but ironic contrast, Jesus' disciples are so caught up in His miracles that they cannot see His ministry!" - JDP

The disciples were looking past the woman to their continuing walk with Jesus... While Jesus made sure that their walk was specifically designed to encounter this woman. This is a direct parallel to the parable involving the Good Samaritan (only this time it is for real).

Note: the disciples (like Nic and JB's disciples) fail the test that this Samaritan woman passes!

28 ...so the woman dropped everything, left what she came for, and immediately became a missionary for Jesus!

Come and see... (website too)

My food is the ministry...

Jesus explains the Great Commission via the sowing/harvesting analogy

Believing what you hear from someone else does not equate to believing for yourself per personal relationship!!!

I AM the Woman at the Well!!!

Person of Peace “examples” from both the O.T. & N.T.

Noah:	Genesis 6:17-18
Lot:	Genesis 19:12-16
Rahab:	Joshua 6:17-25
Gadarene demoniac:	Mark 5:18-20
Cornelius	Acts 10:24
Lydia	Acts 16:14-15
Philippian Jailer	Acts 16:27-34
Crispus	Acts 18:8

Contrasts & Parallels:

Pharisee vs. Floozy

Night vs. Day

Respected vs. Rejected

This is like the Pharisee vs. the Tax-collector

Jacob's well vs. Jesus' well

Well-water vs. Living Water

Clean-drinking vs. Clean-disciples (ceremonially)

Ministry Mountains vs. Messianic Mountain

JB's disciples vs. Jesus' disciples

Can't see Jesus thru John...

Cant see Ministry thru Miracles...

Come and see... (Jesus to 1st disciples)

Come and see... (first disciples to 2nd disciples)

Come and see... (Samaritan woman to Samaritan town)

CLOSE: Friends, you & I are that woman at the well!

Pray:

Jason Gray: ***"I Am New"***

Jason Gray: ***"Remind Me Who I Am"***

Jason Gray: ***"Love Will Have the Final Word"***