

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: ALent3x2017

Text: John 4:5-42

5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, **tired out by his journey**, was sitting by the well. It was about **noon**.

7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." 8 (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "**How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?**" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." 11 The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and **the well is deep**. Where do you get that living water? 12 **Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob**, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" 13 Jesus said to her, "**Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again**, 14 but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. **The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.**" 15 The woman said to him, "Sir, **give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty** or have to keep coming here to draw water."

16 Jesus said to her, "**Go, call your husband**, and come back." 17 The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; 18 for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" 19 The woman said to him, "**Sir, I see that you are a prophet.** 20 Our ancestors worshiped **on this mountain**, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." 21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, **believe me**, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father **neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem**. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the **true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth**, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. 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" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, **he will proclaim all things to us.**" 26 Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

27 Just then his disciples came. **They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman**, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" 28 Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 29 "**Come and see** a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" 30 They left the city and were on their way to him.

31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, **eat something.**" 32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." 33 So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" 34 Jesus said to them, "**My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.** 35 Do you not say, 'Four months more,

then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, **look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.** 36 The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. 37 For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ 38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

39 Many Samaritans from that city **believed in him because of the woman’s testimony,** “He told me everything I have ever done.” 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. 41 And **many more believed because of his word.** 42 They said to the woman, “It is **no longer because of what you said that we believe,** for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

Word - I/S, Eye - I/S, Body - S, Nature - links, People - I/S

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
<p>Word - Verbal/Linguistic</p> <p>MWD</p>	<p>This passage is a literary work.</p>	<p>The contrast between this woman and Nicodemus. male/female, Jewish/Samaritan, night/day, gets confused and gives up/ gets the gist and sees the Messiah identify himself, comes slowly into the light/ starts out there and brings others in, etc.</p> <p>Three movements in the conversation. Water, personal life, worship.</p> <p>The trial motif - especially as to witnesses - runs through the entire Gospel and shows up here with the woman running back to her village.</p> <p>“Does her vessel represent the things that sustain our lives? Is it money? independence? career? vocation? hobby? relationship? What are the vessels that aid in our</p>	<p>As you prepare to preach or teach this passage, take different color pencils or markers and note the movements in the story, especially as the woman and Jesus continue to talk.</p> <p>Note other props or ideas from other stories already presented in the Gospel. LOTS of connection to Nicodemus but also to the water jars in Cana and Jacob’s well itself.</p> <p>Connections to the Exodus and Romans passages include needing water to quench thirst (the Israelites, Jesus, and the woman’s household), the water that saves and flows out from God (the water that comes from the rock at Rephidim, God’s love flowing from Jesus and into us as per Paul, Jesus’ own gift of living water).</p>

		<p>existence, that keep us alive?"</p> <p>~ Beth Scibienski, Lectionary Reflections</p>	
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p> <p>D2</p>		<p>Shechem, Jacob's well, and Mt. Gerizim are all sacred sites to the Samaritans (to this day); it would be like going to Independence Hall in Philly, or walking around the Liberty Bell, and meeting a guy from London who turns out to be the messiah; or like a New Yorker meeting a guy Boston while sitting in Yankees Stadium and finding out he's the messiah. (see also People)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movie clips of meet-cutes (People) • Prop of water jar (Body)
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p>		<p>Jacob Neusner, in his book <i>A Rabbi talks with Jesus</i>, explains that for a rabbi to argue and dialogue with others was a sign of respect: "It is my form of respect, the only compliment I crave from others, the only serious tribute I pay to the people I take seriously -- and therefore I respect and even love."</p> <p>Jacob Neusner, <i>A Rabbi Talks with Jesus. An Intermillennial, Interfaith Exchange</i> (New York: Doubleday, 1993), 3.</p> <p>(see also People)</p>	<p>By engaging in this conversation, the woman isn't just throwing dust in Jesus' face in order to make a getaway; they are engaging in commentary about their shared history. After hearing her own story (you have had five husbands vis the occupying powers in the land) told without condemnation, she figures he must have some insight into this old conflict about worship, so why not ask?</p> <p>I can see them commiserating about their shared hope for the Messiah then BOOM he drops his identity on her. No wonder she leaves her jar - I think she forget all about it.</p> <p>MWD</p>
<p>Body - Kinesthetic</p>			<p>Carry in a water jar (an</p>

MWD			<p>expression of the woman's thirst, relieved when she receives the living water?) It should be relatively large and ceramic, if possible. Or maybe a 5-gal. Jerrycan, if you want to go contemporary. (see also Eye)</p> <p>Many examples More examples Samaritan women, c. 1890?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to draw water from a well, drawing from a 2000 yr old well in Israel, et. al.
Musical			
<p>Natural</p> <p>MWD (links)</p>	<p>Perhaps worshiping in Spirit and truth is connected to being born of the Spirit, per ch. 3?</p>	<p>Sowing and reaping - takes many months for actual crops to grow and mature</p> <p>Making disciples is no different; someone plants the seeds, others nurture and grow it, others will harvest the ripe crop.</p> <p>The fields (<i>xora</i>) are ripe for harvesting." If the disciples would only look up, they would see Samaritans coming out to them!</p>	<p>Encourage your members to contribute to a pure water ministry, like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Water Project • Charity Water • Living Waters for the World • Water.org <p>(See also People) (See also Exodus 17)</p>
<p>People - Interpersonal</p> <p>D2</p>	<p>"As I've heard this text interpreted in the past, her "problem" is the fact that she engages in serial relationships. But I sense this text is really about security</p>	<p>A compilation of best "meet-cutes" - the intriguing way movie characters meet for the first time. Not unlike our characters in this story. (See also Eye SFX)</p>	<p>Readers theater</p> <p>Some thoughts about Reader's theater:</p> <p>You can go with what is on the page and if you</p>

	<p>and dignity. I hear a sense of crushing disappointment in life, in the drudge work assigned to her, of going to a well of promise (men who said they would take care of her) only to find that the well of covenantal manhood had run dry.” ~ Robert Hoch, Working Preacher</p>		<p>have some skillful readers, the nuance of the conversation will make it off the page and into the room.</p> <p>If you want to use costumes and props, I would suggest going with something maybe more contemporary to suggest the struggle the woman is having in her life. She wants that water not only so she will not have to keep at the drudgery of her chore of drawing water, but to refresh her own life. Dress her in jeans or sweatpants and a rumpled, stained t-shirt. Maybe use some makeup for exhausted circles under her eyes or even a bruise on her cheek.</p>
<p>Self - Intrapersonal</p>		<p>“What is life-changing for the woman is, according to her, that she has been entirely known by him, and this being known has enabled her to know him.” Meda Stamper, Working Preacher</p>	<p>What is your spiritual thirst? What would you want from a meeting with Jesus?</p>