

Gospel of John: That You Might Believe

[John 4:1-54](#)

"Worship in Spirit and in Truth" – March 28, 2021



Introduction

John's gospel has made it clear that Jesus is the Christ and the son of God (see Jn. 20:31). However, so far, we are left to ask the question: *whom is Jesus the Christ for?* Who belongs to His kingdom?

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. A Samaritan town that's transformed. ([4:1-42](#))
- II. A Jewish town that's stagnant. ([4:43-54](#))

Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [4:1-42](#)

Jesus, weary from his journey, rests at a well in Samaria on His way to Galilee. There, he meets a Samaritan woman and bridges a number of historic, hostile divisions between Jews and Samaritans. His conversation with her exposes her sin (vv16-18) to awaken a thirst and awareness to Jesus – the Christ who offers living water. Painful as it may be, the woman does not flee to the dark – she's coming to know Jesus as the Christ who can take away her shame and sin.

After reading about Nicodemus' refusal to believe or receive Jesus, the woman's response is an encouraging contrast. What are some of the differences between Nicodemus (a religious leader) and this Samaritan woman? How does this passage help us understand that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God?

What can we learn from Jesus and His conversation with the woman at the well about contentment? Where was she looking for it in the past and how can knowing and loving God help us to find true contentment?

Four practical applications for evangelism:

1. Prioritize the kingdom over secondary things that could divide. As Jesus says, "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).
2. Be willing to share your needs with non-Christian friends. This is part of relationships and can, with God's help, open doors for gospel conversations.

3. Don't let the other opinions of others keep you from sharing the gospel.
4. Don't believe the lie that your sinful past disqualifies you from your evangelism. We are trophies of God's grace!

Additional Reading: [Hebrews 4:15-16](#),

2) Read [4:43-54](#)

Are you looking for miracles from God to believe? We need more than miracles to believe. We need the new birth to believe. We also need to guard ourselves from a pride that looks for God to give us signs for us to obey His word. As we seek to walk by faith, consider the acronym A.P.T.A.T. Admit you can do nothing. Pray for help. Trust a specific promise from God's word. Act in obedience. Finally, thank God for his provision and goodness. What will obedience look like for you right now? This is what it looks like for us to walk in faith. We honor Jesus as the Christ by obeying Him as king and banking our lives on His trustworthiness.

Additional Reading: [John 12:37](#)

Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

| |
|--|
| *Next week's sermon text: we turn to John 5:1-30 "The Two Resurrections" |
|--|