

092020 Growth Group Study

The Woman Who Became a Well

John 4:27-42



Background: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news” (Is 52:7). Evangelism. Sometimes we hear that word and immediately we cringe. Unfortunately, the word is heard negatively these days. But we shouldn’t cringe with this word, for evangelizing is simply “good-news-izing,” telling people in word and deed the amazingly wonderful good news of Jesus. This is exactly what the woman at the well did. She met Jesus, was loved by him, then turned around and loved her neighbors by sharing the amazingly wonderful good news. What can we learn about this incredible privilege of good-news-izing from this woman at the well who became a well?

Sermon Text (ESV):

John 4:27-42

27 Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” 28 So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, 29 “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” 30 They went out of the town 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 said to one another, “Has anyone brought him something to eat?” 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, then comes the harvest’? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. 36 Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and 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 town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” 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 indeed the Savior of the world.”

Discussion Questions:

- Preparation
 - As you reflect on the sermon, what stands out to you most?
 - What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- Sermon Questions
 - What are your thoughts & feelings about the word “evangelism”? How might thinking about it as “good-news-izing” change those thoughts & feelings?
 - Shawn challenged us to enter the work the Father is doing *now*. What doubts do you have about people being ready to hear about Jesus?
 - Be encouraged that God is already working on people’s hearts. We are simply invited by Jesus to enter into conversation that He is already having in their hearts through His Spirit.
 - Discuss the four steps of putting “good-news-izing” into practice:
 - Invitation (“Come and see”): How can we – personally and as a church body – extend invitations and be more inviting?
 - Jesus (“Come and see a man”): Remember to always come back to the person of Jesus and His Word
 - Testimony (“...a man who told me all I ever did.”): What is your testimony of the good news of Jesus in your life?
 - Questions (“Can this be the Christ?”): What are the implications or next steps based on your story or situation e.g., How now shall I live?
 - As a group, pray for & keep one another accountable to:

- Write down & pray over 5 people who you want to hear the good news of Jesus Christ by the end of the year
- Fill in your own story: “Come and see a man who...”
- Pray for another drink of living water for yourself