

Discussion Guide Stories Worth Sharing — Part 4 PARTICIPANT GUIDE

"God is a spring of living water which flows unceasingly into the hearts of those who pray."

[Louis de Montfort]

ENGAGE & CONNECT

Share about a time when someone went out of their way to encourage, bless, or help you. How did that make you feel and/or impact you?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

"God, you are my God; I eagerly seek you. I thirst for you; my body faints for you in a land that is dry, desolate, and without water. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory." [Psalm 63:1-2]

BIG IDEA

God desires fertile faith in Jesus in order to continually quench our deepest thirst!

PASSAGE

John 4:1-26

DISCUSSION

- 1. In the sermon we heard, "Jesus' plan is to help us see our internal thirst in order to seek the only water that satisfies." As you reflect on your life over the past few years, what have you sought out to satisfy your internal thirst that has not satisfied you?
- 2. What does Jesus' decision to travel through Samaria reveal about His mission?
- 3. In what ways does the living water Jesus offers differ from the physical water from Jacob's well?
- 4. What does the Samaritan woman's response to Jesus' offer of living water reveal about her understanding and spiritual state?
- 5. In the sermon we heard, "Recognize your sin and the fact that people (and idols) can not quench your internal thirst!" Take a moment to be honest about the current state of your internal thirst. What might you be putting in the place of Jesus to satisfy your internal thirst?
- 6. How does the woman's perception of Jesus change throughout their conversation? How has your perception of Jesus changed through personal, intimate time with Him?

- 7. In what ways does the Samaritan woman's past affect her initial reaction to Jesus? In what way(s) has your past impacted Jesus' invitation to you to be satisfied by Him? How can we encourage you today?
- 8. How does Jesus' approach to evangelism in this passage serve as a model for believers today?
- 9. How does the woman's testimony to the townspeople reflect a transformation in her life?
- 10. In what ways does this passage encourage us to evaluate our own spiritual thirst and seek fulfillment in Christ?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE

In John 7:38–38, we read that "Jesus stood up and cried out, 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. The one who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, will have streams of living water flow from deep within him." Do you believe His words? Are you living like you believe this is true?

Based on the Holy Spirit's prompting today, what is a step of obedience that you can take? Here are a few questions to consider ...

- Do you believe Jesus is God in the flesh and the Savior of the world?
- Have you asked for and received His living water?
- How are you drinking His living water daily?

PRAYER FOCUS

Satisfied By "Living Water"

- Pray that the Spirit's presence flows through every part of our being, washing away all that hinders us from truly knowing and serving God.
- Pray that we are changed from the inside out. May He fill us with peace, joy, and strength, so that we may live as vessels of God's love, pouring out His goodness to a world in need.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE *Optional*

Welcoming Prayer is an invitation to welcome everything, knowing that everything that happens to us is something we can learn and grow from. It also helps us consent to God's presence and action in our physical and emotional reactions to anything that happens to us and around us. Give it a try!

• Welcoming Prayer or rockbridge.cc/welcoming-prayer