

The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – March 5-10
Doing Life Together – Stump Stories pt 8

MONDAY:

KEY VERSE: John 4:1-6

OBSERVATION: Samaritans were hated by the Jews because long before in their history, some Jews intermarried with Gentiles (non-Jews). This group of half-Jews became known as Samaritans. They wanted full rights to the temple and claimed the same God, but the 'pure-bred' Jews despised them. Besides these racial prejudices, what prejudices did Jesus have to overcome in order to help this woman?

TUESDAY:

KEY VERSE: John 4:7-9

OBSERVATION: Women were regarded in low esteem in that part of the world when Jesus lived and it was not appropriate for to talk to women in public. Because she came to the well around noon (the sixth hour) which is the hottest time of the day when nobody else would come. Certainly she was an outcast, and probably a prostitute (since she had 5+ husbands).

WEDNESDAY:

KEY VERSE: John 4:10

OBSERVATION: Jesus' habit of reaching out in love and truth was not determined by his condition or by the external characteristics of another, all he saw was a person with a need. Jesus sets up the theme for conversation by identifying with her needs.

THURSDAY:

KEY VERSE: John 4:11-12

OBSERVATION: Compare and contrast the type of water that the woman is thinking of (v11, 15) and the type of water that Jesus is talking about (v13-14). Obviously the woman is talking about physical water. The 'Living Water' that Jesus refers to would be most commonly understood as a spring of running water that never ran dry and always satisfied. Jesus always satisfies our deepest longings – including the longing for a relationship with God.

FRIDAY:

KEY VERSE: John 4:13-15

OBSERVATION: How can Jesus' "Living Water" satisfy some (or all) of these needs? There are many ways that Jesus fills our emptiness. Because we were created for a relationship with God, we will never be satisfied until we have one through Jesus. The unconditional, tender love of Jesus helps with our need for a steady relationship. Jesus satisfies our need for truth because he himself is the truth, and he makes sense of the world and our place in it, and therefore he satisfies our longing for truth. Jesus is someone who is always dependable, always sure, and always there.

SATURDAY:

KEY VERSE: John 4:16-26

OBSERVATION: How does Jesus turn the woman's diversion in v. 19 to his ultimate aim in the conversation? The important thing is not whether someone worships 'here' or 'there', but that people worship "in spirit and truth." Why does Jesus reveal himself here? He knows that the woman is interested and will take what he says to heart. What are the final things that show that the woman is convinced that Jesus is telling the truth? What would Jesus say to you if he walked up and saw you today?