

Jesus and the Woman at the Well – Part 1**TEXT: John 4:1-45****STORY ELEMENTS:**

Setting: circa 26 AD in Sychar, Samaria

Main Characters: God, Jesus, the disciples, and a Samaritan woman

Plot: Jesus evangelizes a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well.

Key word(s): “ _____ ”

Climax: John 4:17–18 *The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: 18 For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.*

Background

- (vv 1-3) After Jesus' first journey to Jerusalem during his public ministry, he and his disciples went into the Judæan hill country to preach and baptize alongside of John the Baptist. But when Jesus' popularity eclipsed John's, it became necessary for the Savior to relocate his ministry focus to Galilee in order to diffuse the controversy that the _____ were provoking.
- (vv 5-6) *En route* to Galilee, Jesus and his disciples passed through Samaria and stopped at a town called Sychar:
 - Samaria was the name the wicked King _____ gave to the capital city of the apostate northern kingdom of Israel. (1 Ki. 16:24)
 - After Samaria fell to the Assyrians in 722 B.C. The region was colonized by outsiders, and soon a half-breed race emerged called “Samaritans.” The Samaritans and the Jews became bitter enemies (Ez. 4:1-24; Ne. 4:1-6). The Samaritans rejected the Old Testament except the Pentateuch. They also rejected the temple in Jerusalem and established their own temple on _____.
_____.

“Give me to drink”

- (vv 5-9) When Jesus stopped at Jacob's Well (Gen. 33:19) for rest, he asked a woman there for a drink. Why do you think the woman was surprised that Jesus would ask her for a drink? _____

- (v 10) Jesus responded to her by offering her a drink of “living water.” In the Old Testament, living water was a significant theme.
 - The LORD rebuked the Jews for rejecting Him, the “_____ of living water.” (Jer. 2:13; 17:13)
 - The prophets spoke of a time when living waters will bring healing and life to the land. (Ez. 47:8-9; Ze. 14:8)

==> Living water is the life-giving, sin-cleansing, soul-changing power of the _____.
The Holy Spirit is the agent of this power that proceeds from Jesus Christ.

John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

5. (vv 11-12) The woman, like Nicodemus before, did not understand that Jesus spoke of spiritual truths and not mere physical facts. She challenged Jesus on his claim to provide water that slaked thirst eternally. When Jesus continued to assert the superiority of his water, she eagerly asked for a drink, saying, "Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw." Why do you think she wanted to avoid coming to the well? _____
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"Go, call thy husband"

6. (vv 16-18) Jesus told the woman to fetch her _____. She sheepishly responded "I have no husband." The Savior then displayed his divinity by revealing her dark secrets: "Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly."
7. (v 19) When confronted with her sin by an outsider, the woman couldn't help but discern the work of God, She responded, "I perceive that thou art a _____."

Applications and Observations

8. Before a can person can be saved, they must first understand why they need salvation, i.e., they must embrace the fact of their sin and understand their _____ before a holy God. The Savior's words to the woman at the well were not intended to shame her, but to open her eyes to the fact that she was a sinner in need of a Savior.

Notes

HOW TO USE THIS HAND-OUT AS A TAKE-HOME BIBLE STUDY:

1. Read the Bible passage indicated in the **STORY ELEMENTS** box.
2. Try to fill in the blanks based upon your understanding of the passage.
3. Check your answers with the **Answer Key and correct any errors**
 - o Understand that some blanks may have more than one correct answer (e.g., synonyms for words in the Answer Key)
 - o Understand that some answers are a matter of opinion
4. Write down your own thoughts and personal applications in the **Notes** section.
5. Enjoy God's Word!

ANSWER KEY:

Key word(s): "water"

1. Pharisees
2. a) Omri; b) Mt. Gerizim
3. Because men did not speak to women in public, he was a Jewish man and she was a Samaritan woman, and she was a woman of ill-repute
4. a) fountain; ==> Holy Spirit
5. 5. It was hard work, and the fact that she was alone and drew water in the midday when women would not be there implies that she wished to avoid public shame
6. husband
7. prophet
8. guilt