

## John 4:1-42

1. Jesus has what the Samaritan woman needs, yet before he even meets her he empties himself to the point of being in need as well (i.e. he is tired, alone, and has no way to draw water for himself). What might this teach us about sharing Jesus with others?
2. The world would have said to Jesus that the Samaritans were outcasts, his enemies even. Who are the Samaritans in our society? Do we, as the church and body of Christ, attempt to “meet them at the well”? How can we do this better?
3. It is the woman’s thirst that daily drives her to Jacob’s well, but the water she finds there is never completely satisfying. What are some things we (or others) sometimes try to satisfy our thirst with?
4. What are some of the felt needs and dissatisfactions that people experience today? How can Jesus’ “living water” satisfy those needs?
5. The person Jesus meets at the well is a woman, a Samaritan, and someone who has a very broken and complicated history. Any one of these things, according to the cultural and religious world of the day, should have disqualified her from serving Jesus or even testifying about him. Why do you think Jesus chose to reveal himself to this woman? Why did he choose this woman to be the person to first testify to the Samaritans about Jesus?
6. We are all called to live our lives as testimonies to who God is and what God has done in our lives. We are called to carry the gospel, the good news of Jesus, out into the ordinary, broken, and dark places of the world. Are there things in your life, or in your past, that you feel disqualify you from that mission or that disqualify your testimony?
7. Think about/discuss some of the things that God/Jesus says in the Bible about who we are. Do you find it harder to believe that God is who God says he is, or that you are who God says you are?
8. What are some of things that God has done for you? How has your own encounter with Jesus changed your life? Who have you shared that story with lately?