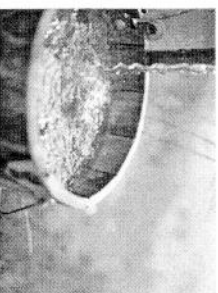


February 2, 2014
John 4:1-42

Key Verses: "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he? Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." John 4:29, 39



Woman at the Well

Time: 30-33 CE

Background: Jews and Samaritans were at odds at the time of Jesus. They were both descendants of Israel, but they had long-standing disagreements that kept them separated. The cultural and religious differences, further exacerbated by the gender differences, made Jesus' encounter with the woman highly unusual. It was even more unlikely that she would become a witness to his prophetic words. This story highlights Jesus' message that God came not only for the Jews, but for all people.

Like in Jesus' encounter with Nicodemus, Jesus' words were misunderstood. The woman believed she could drink Jesus' living water and then would no longer need to come to the well for daily water. She didn't understand Jesus was speaking of living water that would nourish the soul and lead to eternal life.

Community: What cultural differences prevent you from engaging with others from differing backgrounds? Where could you go to begin conversations with people of other cultures or faiths? What might you learn?

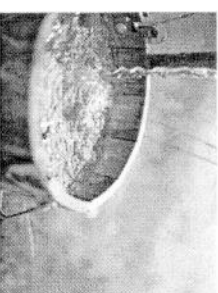
FAITHS:

1. SHARE highs and lows of the day.
2. READ and highlight the **KEY VERSE** (above) in your bible.
3. TALK about how the verse relates to your highs & lows.
4. PRAY for your highs & lows, for your family, and for the world.
5. BLESS one another.(see back of this sheet for more details about FAITH5)

Next Week: Sunday, Feb 9, *Healing Stories*, John 4:46-5:18

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Faith 5

1. **SHARE** highs & lows of the day
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3. **TALK** about how the verse relates to your highs & lows
4. **PRAY** for your highs & lows, for your family, and for the world
5. **BLESS** one another

Take 5!

1. **SHARE:** All of our lives include highs and lows. Share them both.
2. **READ:** See the other side of this bulletin for verse(s).
3. **TALK:** How does this scripture relate to your day? To your life? There is no right answer here.
4. **PRAY:** No fancy words necessary.
5. **BLESS:** Yes, you can bless! Mark the sign of the cross on your or another's forehead. Simple words of "You are loved" or "You are God's favorite child" or something more specific to you or your family. You can even bless yourself.

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