

4 year olds, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade Bible Lesson 5-24-20

Jesus and the Samaritan Woman

John 4:1-42

Story Point: Jesus loves all people.

Memory Verse: “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
John 3:16, NIV

Gospel Gems: Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to those who believe.
The Samaritan woman told people to come and hear Jesus.

PARENTS ONLY: Bible Study Guide

At the time Jesus was on earth, Jews and Samaritans didn't get along. The strife between the two groups stretched back hundreds of years, to the Babylonian exile.

When the Babylonians attacked Judah, they moved a large group of God's people away from their homes. But some of the people—the poorest, sickest, least able to work—were left behind in the region that became known as Samaria. The exile lasted 70 years. During that time, those left in Samaria began to mingle with their neighbors to the north. They intermarried and practiced foreign customs. While the Samaritans still believed in God, they adapted foreign beliefs as well.

The Jews who returned home from Babylon to rebuild God's temple in Jerusalem rejected this new way of life. They were dedicated to obeying and worshiping God, so they didn't agree with the Samaritans' practices. The Samaritans opposed the Jews' efforts to reestablish their nation. In time, the Jews' hate for the Samaritans grew—so much so that a Jew traveling from Judea to Galilee would take a longer route to travel around Samaria rather than through it.

Jesus broke down barriers when He traveled to Galilee by way of Samaria. Even more surprising, Jesus stopped at a well around noon and asked a Samaritan woman for a drink. Jewish men did not speak to women in public.

But Jesus was kind to her, and He offered her a gift: living water. The woman didn't understand, but Jesus revealed His knowledge of her past. He even gave her a glimpse of the future. The Samaritan woman expected a Messiah to come and fix everything. Jesus said, “I am He.”

Explain that the living water Jesus offers is the Holy Spirit. (See John 7:37-39.) The Holy Spirit is a gift that He is eager to give us when we ask Him. Those who receive His grace will never be thirsty again.

Christ Connection – (all stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus)

“Jesus is different from other people. Jesus loves everyone, and He came to give people a free gift: salvation from sin. When we trust in Jesus, we worship Him as our Lord and Savior.”

Introduction to Bible Study: (Activity and Discussion)

- Have children place their hands under running water in a sink and then drink a cup of water.
- Afterward, hold up a glass of water and show a picture of Jesus (picture below Bible study)

Ask:

- What good things does water do for you?
- What good things does Jesus do for you?

Say:

“We can’t live very long without water to drink and we can’t live forever without Jesus. In our story today, Jesus talks about water and even calls Himself the “living water”. What do you think Jesus meant by this? Let’s listen to our story and find out.”

Bible Story: Jesus and the Samaritan Woman – John 4:1-42

PARENTS:

This lesson is paraphrased and in story form. The scripture references are listed above if you choose to read directly from the Bible. We encourage you to open the Bible either way you choose to share this lesson.

Jesus had been teaching in the land of Judea. When it was time to leave, Jesus and His disciples traveled toward the land of Galilee. They traveled right through Samaria. He stopped at one of the towns where there was a well. Jesus stayed at the well, and His disciples went into town to buy food.

A woman who lived in Samaria came to the well to get water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.” The woman was surprised. Jews did not like Samaritans! “Why are you talking to me?” she asked. “I am a Samaritan.”

Jesus said, “If you knew who I am, you would have asked Me for a drink. I would give you living water.”

The woman was confused. Jesus did not have any water with Him. He did not even have a bucket to get water out of the well. The woman asked, “Sir, where do You get ‘living water’?”

Jesus said, “Anyone who drinks the water from this well will be thirsty again, but anyone who drinks the water I give will never get thirsty again!” That sounded wonderful! But Jesus wasn’t talking about actual water. He was talking about God’s Spirit. Whoever has God’s Spirit will have eternal life.

The woman did not understand. “Sir, I want living water,” she said. “Then I will not have to keep coming to this well to get water with my bucket.”

“Go get your husband,” Jesus said.

The woman replied, “I do not have a husband.”

Jesus knew she was telling the truth. Jesus knew everything about the woman. The woman could tell Jesus was wise, so she asked Him a question about worshiping God. Then she said, “I know the Messiah is coming. He will explain everything to us.”

Jesus said, “I am the Messiah.”

The woman left and told the people in her town what had happened. Many people believed in Jesus because of what the woman said. Jesus stayed in the town for two days, and many more people believed in Him. The people said, "We have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of the world."

Review Questions:

- What did Jesus ask the Samaritan woman to give Him? (*a drink of water*)
- What did Jesus say he could give her? (*living water*)
- What is the living water Jesus told the woman about? (*God's Spirit*)
- Who did Jesus tell the woman He was? (*the Messiah*)

Bible Activities:

- Access: **4 years – 1st Grade Activity pages 5-24-20** online.

Craft:

- Access: **4 years – 1st Grade Craft 5-24-20** online.

Missions Moment:

- Access the Missions page: **4 years – 1st Grade Missions 5-24-20** online.
- Show the "Walk Church in Prayer" photo.

Say:

"Missionaries say prayer helps them every day. Praying for missionaries is very important. Missionaries Heiden and Neena Ratner started a church called Walk Church. Let's pray for them now.

- Read the caption on the photo and pray as directed.

Prayer:

"God, thank You for loving me. Help me to show and share Your love with others. Thank You for sending Jesus to save us from our sins. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

