

JOHN

Chapter 4

FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter Four

SUMMARY: Verses 1-54

1. Jesus stops, weary from his journey, at a well in Sychar. He asks a Samaritan woman for a drink, but she is apprehensive because of the cultural divide between Jews and Samaritans. Jesus responds by insinuating who He is and offers her "living water".
2. The Samaritan woman is confused because Jesus has nothing to draw with, and questions His source of water versus Jacob's, who gave them the well.
3. Jesus attempts to enlighten her about the difference between the water in the well and living water, and the benefits therein. She is still confused and asks for the "living water" merely so she does not have to come and physically draw from the well any longer.
4. Jesus tells her personal things about her life, and she acknowledges Him as a prophet. She then asks for spiritual advice about where worshipping God should take place. Jesus tells her that the location is not important, but that God should be and will be worshipped in spirit and truth.
5. The Samaritan woman mentions the promise of a Messiah, and Jesus tells her that He is that Messiah. The disciples return and are confounded by the fact that Jesus was speaking with the woman, but did not ask any questions. The woman departs and shares her story with the people in her town.
6. Meanwhile, Jesus teaches the disciples about the priority of doing God's will, and doing it until His work is done. He likens the work to be done unto reaping a harvest that they did not sow.
7. The Samaritan woman's testimony brings many back to see Jesus, and they believe and acknowledge him as the Christ.
8. Jesus travels to Galilee and is requested to heal a nobleman's son. Jesus tells the man that he won't believe until He does it. The man responds in faith saying: "If you do not come, he will surely die." Jesus honors his faith and heals his son instantly.
9. The nobleman's entire house believes on Christ because of what Jesus had done.

REFLECTION

1. What verse stuck out most to you?
2. In what ways are living water and physical water different? In what ways are they alike?
3. How do you think it makes the woman feel when Jesus reveals her secrets? Why does this astound her?
4. Jesus wasn't supposed to talk with a Samaritan woman. It wasn't culturally appropriate. Why does it seem so hard to minister / share your faith with people different than you?
5. Are you comfortable sharing your faith with strangers? Why / why not?
6. Like the woman, do you believe the story you have can impact and change lives? How so?
7. Do you have enough faith to share your story - failures and all?
8. Why do you think sharing personal stories of how Jesus has touched you is so important?
9. Is there a time where you were desperate like the nobleman and needed an answer from God? If so, what was it?
10. How can your faith impact the life of another?

APPLICATION

1. Tell your story this week! Don't be afraid or embarrassed. Your story is for His glory.

