



SPORTS IN FOCUS

The Living Water

John 4:1-54

READY

- When have you felt the most thirsty after a practice or workout? What made you so thirsty? What quenched your thirst?
- How satisfying is your Christian walk right now? Explain.

SET

Context of John 4:1-54

The story of the Samaritan woman who finds Jesus reinforces the theme that Jesus is the Messiah and Son of God. The main point of this passage is not so much the woman's conversion but that Jesus is the Messiah. Another theme is the love and understanding that Jesus shows toward people. Here he reaches out to a woman that is a social outcast. Jesus exhibits the character of divine love that is indiscriminate.

Keys to Text

Samaria/Samaritans: When the nation of Israel split politically after Solomon's rule, King Omri named the capital of the northern kingdom of Israel "Samaria." Eventually, the entire district which had been taken captive by Assyria was referred to as Samaria which included groups that had intermingled to form a mixed race through intermarriage. This resulted in tension between them and the Jews who had not done so. Therefore, many Jews considered the Samaritans as heretics which resulted in ethnic tensions.

GO

Read John 4:1-54

1. How would you describe the woman at the well? What impresses you about her?
2. What did Jesus mean by the phrase "living water" (v. 10)?
3. How did Jesus describe God, His Father, in the conversation with the Samaritan woman?
4. What lessons in evangelism can we learn from Christ's encounter with the Samaritan woman?
5. Why do you think the Jews of the Old Testament and the Jews of John's Gospel missed out on the living water offered by Jesus?
6. Put in your own words what Jesus meant when He spoke of never thirsting again.
7. What is the significance of Jesus' claim that "I have food to eat of which you do not know?"
8. How is doing God's will filling and satisfying?
9. How do you know what God's will is? How can Jesus' example help you discover God's will?

SPORTS IN FOCUS *SINCERITY*

Sincerity is endeavoring to do what is right without ulterior motives. Many times athletes and coaches act with their own selfish motives in mind. It's refreshing when someone is humble and sincere in their relationships. Sincerity isn't gaudy, it doesn't glitter and has no sparkle... but it is substantial and it is life giving. Jesus was sincere in his efforts to help the woman at the well. His love and compassion for the woman were not motivated by ulterior motives.

How can you become more sincere in your daily routine?

Today, communicate truth with your teammates in a sincere way just as Jesus modeled it for us.