

The Lonely Woman who Found a New Life!

1. One day Jesus was traveling with His disciples through Samaria. The Jews and the Samaritans did not get along. Samaritans were only half Jewish. Because of this, the Jews hated them, and would not talk to them. They ignored them when they happened to meet – and acted just as if they could not even see them. But Jesus, even though He was Jewish, did not have that attitude towards the Samaritans.



2. When Jesus and His disciples came near a Samaritan town, the disciples went into the market to buy something to eat. Jesus was tired from the trip. As he sat down at the well outside the town, He saw a woman walking out to get water from the well. All the other women of the town had come to get their water early in the morning.

3. As Jesus observed her He thought, “She feels rejected by the other women, because they think she is a bad person. They don’t like her or her lifestyle so they avoid her,” Jesus thought. “She finds it too painful to come to the well at the same time as the other women.” He knew that they looked down on her and made fun of her. Jesus could tell she had lived a sad life and was very lonely.

4. When she came near Jesus, He asked her for a drink of water. She was very surprised that He, a Jewish man, would talk to her. She was a Samaritan woman, and Jews did normally talk with Samaritans. Then Jesus said to her, “If you knew what God wants to give you, you would ask *me* for a drink and I would give you life-giving water.”

5. She looked at Him and wondered, “How can He could get water out of the well without a bucket.” “Where will you get this life-giving water?” she asked Him. He explained, “Everyone who drinks this water, will get thirsty again and have to come here to get water often.” Then He told her that the “living water” He had, would change a person’s heart. “Give me that water,” she said.

6. Then Jesus asked her to go bring her husband to the well. She told Him that she did not have a husband. Jesus said to her, “You have told me the truth.” Then Jesus told her what He knew about her life. He knew that she had already had five husbands and the man she was living with now, was not her husband.

7. As she talked to Jesus, she realized that He was different from every other man she had ever met. He was a pure and genuine person. She felt so accepted by Him. He did not reject her, as all her husbands had done. This was so different from her normal daily experience of feeling rejected by others around her. She realized that she could trust this man!



8. As Jesus talked to her, the woman knew that something had changed inside of her. She felt peace in her heart. She left her water pot and ran back to the town, “Come and meet a man who told me everything I have done in the past and yet has treated me with respect. He has changed my life. I believe He is the One God promised to send to be the Savior of all people in the whole world.”



9. Everyone could see that this woman was not the same as before. When they saw the change in her life and her excitement, many men and women of the town went out to see Jesus. He stayed and taught them for a few days and many of them also received the living water He had given her. He changed their hearts too.

John 4:4-42

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QUESTIONS: The Lonely Woman who Found a New Life!

A. How did the Jews treat the Samaritans?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Did Jesus have the same attitude as other Jews?

B. Who was traveling with Jesus?

What did they do when they came to the Samaritan town?

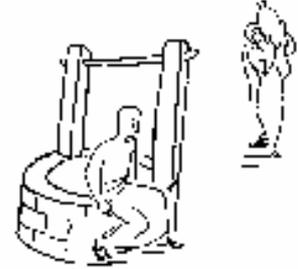
Where was Jesus when they went into the town?

Why do you think He did not go with his men?

Who came to the well while Jesus was sitting there?

What time of day was it?

Why did she come at that time of day?



C. What did Jesus know about her life and how others treated her? (See paragraph 3)

D. What did Jesus request that she give Him?

How did she feel when He asked her for that?

Why did she feel that way?

E. What did He promise He could give her?

What did He say it would do?

Something to Think About and English Conversation Practice:

1. Tell what happened in the rest of the story.

a. Tell what she did after talking with Jesus (See paragraph 8)

b. Tell about the people in her town who she talked to that day: (See paragraph 9)



2. From this story, how is Jesus different from other people the woman had met?

3. In what ways did the woman's life change after she met and talked with Jesus?

4. Why do you think the attitude of the people changed towards this woman?

5. What did you learn about Jesus in this story?

6. Jesus talked about "living water." What do you think He was talking about?

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