




THE WELL

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²"Come!" And let the one who hears say,
"Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come;
and let the one who wishes take the free
gift of the water of life.

Revelation 22:17 (NIV)

She was at the end of her rope. Feeling empty from her guilt and shame, she found herself incredibly lonely and in despair.

She was rejected because of the sin of her ancestors.


She was rejected by 5 husbands.

She was rejected by her own community because of her choices.

She feels the weight of her past, but what she doesn't realize: **so does Jesus.**

How do we find hope when we're living in despair? It's found in the story of "The Woman At the Well" in John chapter 4.

We pray, like the woman, that you'll encounter the hope of Jesus with this *Perspectives Study*.



What is a "Perspectives Study"? ³

A Perspectives Study is a type of study that invites us to put ourselves in their shoes & their world. In doing so, we can see life clearly from their perspective, and we can draw out nuggets of gold that are hidden deep within the story.

The Well is a 4-part Perspectives Study focused on The Woman at the Well in John 4, so that we can get a much clearer picture of Jesus's heart for those that are left behind.

Let's put ourselves in the shoes of the woman at the well, studying what life was like for her, and clearly see just how desperately she needed what only Jesus could give; because we desperately need Jesus to break us free from our despair, loneliness, guilt, & shame.

Our prayer is that this Perspectives Study will be a blessing as you look inwardly at any despair in your heart, & become filled with the Living Water that only comes through Jesus.

The world will leave you feeling empty, but God's
Living Water will NEVER stop flowing!



Part I: Living Drought

Sermon notes:

Key passages: Deut 7:3, 2nd Kings 17:32-33, John 4:1-4.

Key Question: What is it like to be in a "living drought"?

>>> They "worshipped other ____" meant making child

_____.

>>> There was constant _____ between Jews & Samaritans.

>>> Direct travel from Judea to Galilee was about ____ miles.

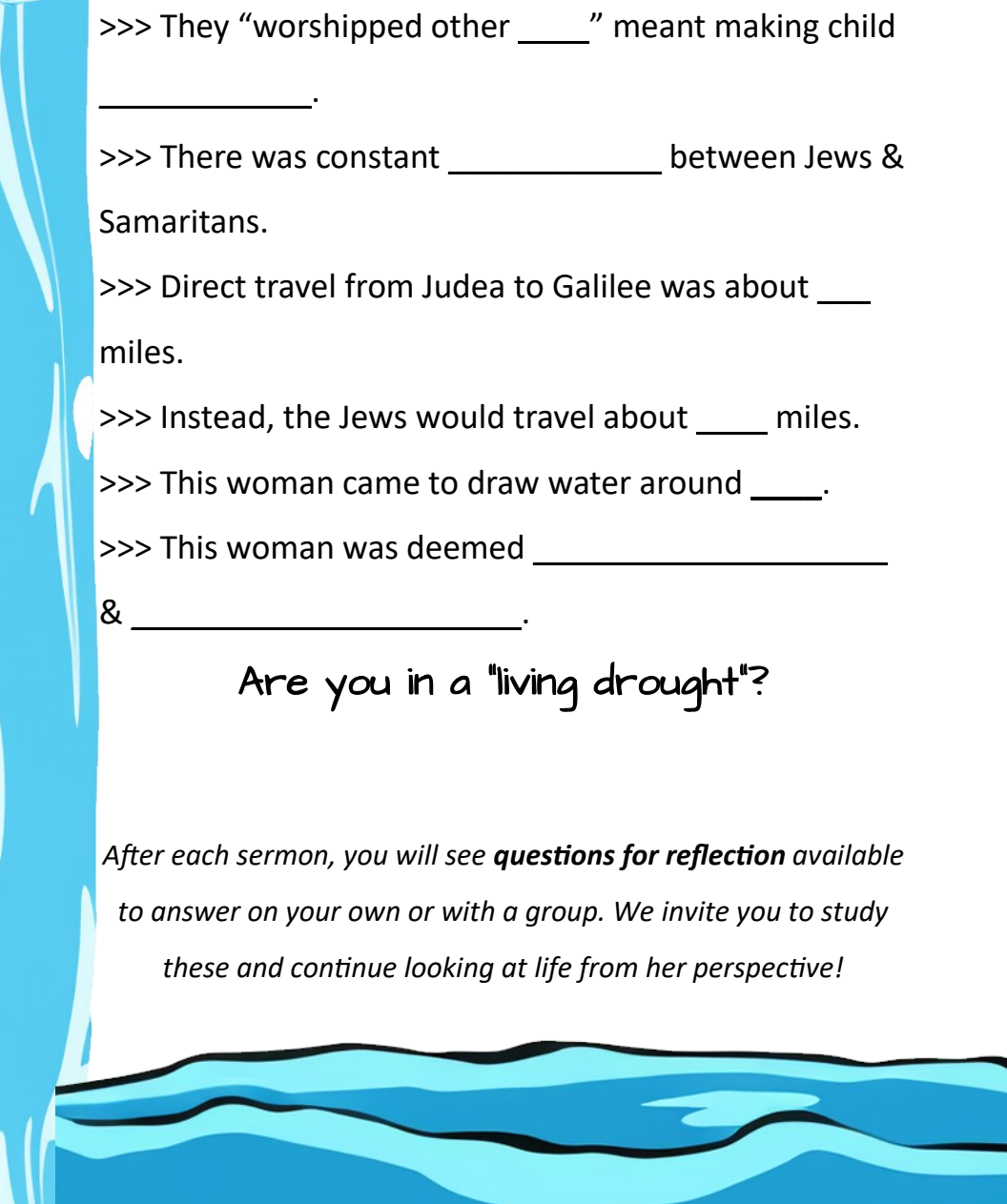
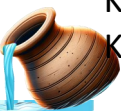
>>> Instead, the Jews would travel about ____ miles.

>>> This woman came to draw water around ____.

>>> This woman was deemed _____
& _____.

Are you in a "living drought"?

*After each sermon, you will see **questions for reflection** available to answer on your own or with a group. We invite you to study these and continue looking at life from her perspective!*



Part I: Living Drought

Questions for reflection:

Before beginning, read the following passages that involve the exchanges of the people throughout history in this area.

Gen. 26:19-22, 2nd Kings 17:24-41, Ezra 4:1-3, Neh. 4:1-3

How would you describe the interactions seen in the passages?

The idea of being in a “living drought” is summed up in a word: “despair”. Look up the definition of that word and answer the following questions:

In her shoes: What would it be like to be in a “living drought”? How did it affect her feelings, thoughts, actions, relationships?

“He had to go through Samaria”. Read Matthew 5:1-10 (known as the Beatitudes). Which of the Beatitudes would compel Jesus to have to go through Samaria? List them below.



Part I: Living Drought

Questions for consideration (cont'd):



Study anchor: When it comes to concepts/themes, ask:
 "What is the *root*?" and "What is the *fruit*?"

You'll see this being asked on various questions in this study.

"What is the *root*?" >>> What are the motives that caused them to say/do what they did?

"What is the *fruit*?" >>> What was produced from their motives?

What is the "root" of what the Pharisees valued compared to what Jesus valued?

When it comes to reaching people, do your motives look more like the Pharisees or more like Jesus? Explain below.

Do you know someone that's in a "living drought"?

Pray that God would continue to reveal those that are in despair like this woman was, "the least of these" that are in your life.

Pray that God would allow you to encounter them, and that when you do, they'll be able to see the heart of Jesus.



Part I: Living Drought

Notes for further study and prayer on this topic.



Part 2: Drowning Drought

Sermon Notes:

Key passages: John 4:5-26; 1st Samuel 16:7

Key Question: How did Jesus end the "drought"?



>>> Jesus _____ her before the _____ even knew her.

>>> He recognized her as an _____ - _____.

>>> He shed _____ on the _____.

>>> He revealed to her how to truly _____.

Are you ready to drown the "drought"?

Additional Notes:



Part 2: Drowning Drought

Questions for reflection:

In her shoes: Imagine you are the woman at the well while reading John 4:5-26, and then answer the following questions.

Because of her history, what is the “**root**” of this woman’s value from her perspective? What about from Jesus’s perspective?

When it comes to this woman’s value, what is the “**fruit**” from her perspective? What about from Jesus’s perspective?

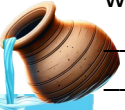
When was the last time you felt completely alone? What do you do when you have that feeling of loneliness come over you?

Read John 4:15. What is the *root* & *fruit* of her desire to have this Living Water? How can we get this Living Water like she did?



Part 2: Drowning Drought

Read John 1:1-5 & John 4:16-17. Why would she have been filled with shock & shame when Jesus asked her to get her husband?



Read John 4:19-24. What does it mean to worship “in spirit & in truth” (in contrast to on this mountain/in Jerusalem)?

In what ways did Jesus radically change her view of herself?
What does this story tell us about our identity, as well?

Read 1st John 1:5-10. Is there despair, loneliness or darkness in your heart you need to confront, so that you can freely worship God in the spirit & in truth today?



Part 2: Drowning Drought

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Take some time in prayer for your heart to be softened to His will, and to be filled with this Living Water today.

Remember: the world will leave us feeling empty,
but God's Living Water will never stop flowing!

Use this space for prayer or additional notes:

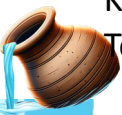


Part 3: Open the Flood Gates

Sermon Notes:

Key passages: John 4:27-38

Today's Question: What do you need to leave behind?



>>> The woman _____ the _____.

>>> When we encounter the authentic Jesus, we're confronted with the _____ about _____.

>>> When we encounter the authentic Jesus, we're also confronted with a _____ about _____.

>>> When we're _____ with Living Water, the _____ we receive is _____.

>>> Jesus _____ to _____ Living Water!

Who needs this Living Water today?

Additional Notes:



Part 3: Open the Flood Gates

Questions for reflection:

Reading: John 4:27-38, Romans 10:9-15, Luke 10:25-37

She left the jar behind. What else did she leave behind?

Read John 4:29. Have you had a time when you questioned (or doubted) who Jesus really is? What was at the root/fruit of that doubt? Do you still have doubts today?

Read John 4:30. Knowing her story, what would have compelled the Samaritans to follow this particular woman out to see Jesus?

Read Acts 1:1-9. What were the disciples being sent to do then? Who are you being sent to reach today (be specific, if possible)?



Part 3: Open the Flood Gates

What role do we have today in the *spiritual harvest* Jesus's spoke of in John 4:34-38? What does it mean for us to sow or reap?



Consider the most relevant sentence for you today:

>>> I am in despair and have never encountered God's love.

>>> I'm ready to "leave the jar behind" (whether or not you know how to do that).

>>> I've received that Living Water & I'm ready to tell about that gift from God to others.

Write out a prayer asking for God's power & presence to flood your life based on your above answer. Pray not only to be filled with Living Water, but abundantly overflowing!



Part 3: Open the Flood Gates

Use this for space for additional notes:



Part 4: Seeing Well

Sermon Notes:

Key passages: John 2:11; 4:39-54

Today's Question: Who do you say Jesus is?



What are labels given to Jesus throughout the story?

>>> _____ >>> _____ >>> _____ >>> _____ ?

>>> _____

Zoom out & think "parallel":

>>> John 2:1-11: Jesus turned _____ into _____.

>>> John 4:39-43: Jesus turned _____ into _____.

>>> John 4:44-54: Jesus turned _____ into _____.

Who do you say Jesus is?

Additional Notes:



Questions for reflection:

Reading: John 2:1-11, John 4:39-54

Look again at the labels given to Jesus throughout the story. What are the labels you have given to Jesus in your life? Write out the “root” & “fruit” of each those labels.

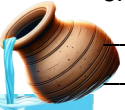
What are some *labels* that have been given to you, and do those labels *contradict* or *coincide* with the labels God has given you?

Read John 4:39. What caused them to believe? Think “parallel”: How can God use us in the same way?



Part 4: Seeing Well

Speculate: What would change in her life after meeting the Messiah face to face, and leading the town to see Him, too?



Now that you know the full story, read the story again (John 4:1-42) as you answer this: Whose life & future will be changed because you “had to” see them and show them the love of Jesus?

The world leaves us feeling empty, but God’s Living Water will never stop flowing! Take some time in prayer to thank God for His presence in your life!



Part 4: Seeing Well

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Use this for space for additional notes:

We hope you've found hope in your walk with Jesus with this study, and that you've encountered Him in new ways, as well. Be sure to check out "The Well" Bible Reading Plan on [YouVersion!](#)



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