

Week 4: The (Very Bad) Woman at the Well

What's the Story? Jesus was walking from Judea to Galilee. It was a long journey and he stopped at a well to rest. While his disciples were off buying some food, a Samaritan woman came to draw water from the well. Jesus asked her for a drink of water. She was surprised because people like Jesus didn't normally talk to Samaritans. He told her that if she knew who he was, she would ask him for the water that gives life. She was so confused because Jesus didn't even have a bucket! "Where are you going to get this life-giving water?" she asked.

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again. But no one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again. The water I give is like a flowing fountain that gives eternal life."

(John 4: 13-14, CEV)

He surprised her even more when he told her everything about herself even though they had never met. She believed he was the Messiah and ran to get her neighbors so that they could come and meet Jesus too.

Moment of Weakness: I don't fit in.

Sometimes other people reject us. They may think we're no good or label us "bad" because we made a mistake or did something wrong or just because we're different from them. They may call us "weird" or laugh and spread gossip about us. The woman at the well was rejected for all of these reasons. But Jesus didn't reject her. He met her at the well, spent time with her and told her about God's living water. After meeting Jesus, she told her neighbors what had happened and many people put their faith in Jesus because of her.

Prayer: Thank you, God, for your living water that gives us new life. Thank you for your love, forgiveness and grace. Amen.

You can read the whole story in John 4: 5-42.

Table Talk:

From the story:

What is something about you that most people don't know?
Has anyone ever made fun of you or thought you were bad because you made a mistake? How did that make you feel?
Who do you trust most to protect your deepest secrets? Why?

Just for fun:

What is your favorite drink when you are thirsty?
Do you like surprises? Why or why not?
What is something that you like that other people think is weird?
If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Family Challenge: Chalk Art Challenge

Instead of a competition this week, you're going to work **with** your family to share hope, encouragement and God's love with our community - just like the woman at the well shared what Jesus taught her with her neighbors!

The Goal: To create beautiful chalk art designs to encourage our neighbors during this bumper summer.

The Options:

- You can draw in your driveway, on the sidewalk in front of your house, in front of our church or in the church parking lot, or anywhere around our city where chalk art is allowed.

Step It Up: Don't stop with chalk! Brainstorm other ways your family can share God's love with your neighbors.

Don't forget!

Send pictures and/or video to Jennifer to be included in our Summer Scrapbook!

How to Make Homemade Sidewalk Chalk:

Mix together 1^{1/2} cups cornstarch and 1^{1/2} cups water and divide into the 12 sections of a muffin tin. Add 2-3 drops of food coloring of your choice into each cup and stir. Let harden.

Want to make paint instead? Mix 1/2 cup cornstarch & 1/2 cup water. Add food coloring and paint on with a brush! Store excess paint in small, airtight containers.