

John 4

John 4.1-6

V1 – Review:

- Who were the Pharisees?** Believed in the resurrection, and they considered themselves the “guardians” of old law (*Rom: 1:19-24*) – they sent representatives to John to interview him and ask him questions
- Why did Jesus leave Judea?** The Pharisees heard he was baptizing more than John the Baptist
- Why would this be a cause of his leaving?** This might draw too much attention to him (as it had to John the Baptist)

V2 – Jesus did not literally baptize people, but it was done under His guidance

V3 – **Where did he go upon leaving Judea?** Galilee

V4 – Look at the map

- For haste involved, Jesus went through Samaria
- The strictest Jews avoided Samaria and hated the Samaritans and went by way of Perea
- For example, in going from Chicago to Minneapolis, if we wanted to avoid Wisconsin, it would be a lot of trouble, but we could go through Iowa and go around Wisconsin
- That is what most Jews did in travelling north (went around Samaria)

V5 – He came to Sychar (a reference to *Genesis 48:22*)

V6 – A problem about moon (Jewish time)

John 4.7-26

V7 – **How did Jesus request a drink?** "Give me a drink" Notice: *v. 11* – nothing to draw the water with

V8 – Possibly Jesus was alone with the woman

V9 – **How do you think she recognized that he was a Jew?** Probably speech, maybe dress

- What surprised the Samaritan woman so much?** A Jew was talking to a Samaritan

V10 – **So who was really in need of help, Jesus or the woman?** The woman (appearances are deceiving)

- If she had recognized Him as the Messiah, what would she have done?** Asked for the Living Water
- The explorer Ponce de Leon went in search of the fountain of youth and thought he found it in Florida

V11 – Very similar to response of Nicodemus – sincere mind searching for the truth

- Her question?** No bucket, how do you get this water?

V 12 – The woman felt insulted - “You mean that your water is better than Jacob's water?
Her question?

V 13-14 – Difference between Jacob's water and the living water of Jesus
-See *Matthew 5:6* – *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied*

V 15 – **Had she understood what Jesus was talking about yet?** No, like Nicodemus she took it literally
-**Why did she want this water?** It would have made those long trips to the well less frequent

V 16 – She had to be shaken out of her interpretation of these words of Jesus
-**What was his statement?** Go and get your husband

V 17 – She didn't like this line of questioning – she wanted to cut these comments off (short answers)

V 18 – **What was her marital situation?** Five husbands, plus one not her husband

V 19 – She immediately recognized that Jesus is no ordinary prophet and changes the subject

V 20 – Either she wanted to get off the subject of her husband or she had this great question she had been saving to ask a true prophet
-**What is she concerned about?** The place of worship

V 21 – **Prediction of Jesus?** Place won't matter (shortly)

V 22 – **Prior to Pentecost, where was the proper place of worship?** Jerusalem (temple)
-See *Deuteronomy 12.5*, *2 Chronicles 7.12*, *Psalms 78.68*

V 23 – **Under the new law, how will people worship?** In spirit and in truth
-**Explain:** Right mental spirit and in a truthful and scriptural manner

V 24 – God is not bound by matter

V 25 – **What did the woman know from the Old Testament?** The Messiah would come and explain all things

V 26 – What a simple but electrifying statement
-Notice the one-syllable words – but what a message!
-Another example of the gospel of *John*: very simple, but deep language
-French: Je lui dit: je le suis, moi qui te parle (still in monosyllabic words)

John 4.27-38

V 27 – **What so amazed the apostles?** Jesus had been talking with a woman
-The ancient world had little respect for women
-Socrates thanked God he had not been born a slave or a woman

-Why didn't the apostles question Jesus? They trusted his wisdom

V 28 – Why did she leave her water pot? So excited

V 29 – A personal worker – evangelist just like Philip said to Nathanael: “Come and see” (John 1:46)
-Did she exaggerate a little? Yes (forgivable)

V 30 – The response? People came to see Jesus

V 31 – Reference back to v. 8

V 32 – John draws on these symbolical statements that people try to take literally

-Other examples:

-Nicodemus – born again

-This woman - living water

-What was his other food? Suffering, etc.

-There were other things in life besides physical eating

V 33 – Response of the apostles? Almost humorous

V 34 – What was his “food”? To do the will of God

V 35 – Were they able to tell when the harvest was coming? Yes

-How? Size of grain (like corn in the Midwest)

-What fields was Jesus talking about? Samaritans – they were ready to be converted

V 36 – How are we rewarded in evangelism? Joy in our hearts over those responding

-Sowers and reapers are all happy

V 37 – Apparently a local saying

-How is this true in evangelism? Some sow, some reap

-Where did Paul say this? *1 Corinthians 3:6*

V 38 – The Lord sowed the seed, others reaped

Read Acts 8.4-6, 12

John 4.39-45

V 39 – An amazing statement relevant to personal evangelism

-Notice the influence of one woman in an entire area

-The Jews despised women, but John shows the value of one woman

V 40 – Christ broke down the wall between Jews and Samaritans – they invited him to stay there

V 41 – Purpose served by the woman? To lead people to Christ; to “locate” people

V 42 – An amazing confession

-Why is this statement so amazing for Samaritans to make? Savior of the world, not just a

Jewish Messiah

V 43 – Still going north (from Judea to Galilee)

V 44 – **What town had he bypassed?** Nazareth
-Why? *John 1:46* – prejudice there

V 45 – **Reception in Galilee?** Welcomed
-V 45 refers to *John 2.23* and possible cleansing of the temple

John 4.46-54 – Seven great miracles recorded in *John* – this is number 2

V 46 – By passed Nazareth (on the way, but apparently he didn't stop there)
-**Who was the desperate man with the sick son?** A royal official, apparently in service to Herod Antipas

V 47 – **Why did the man go to see Jesus?** He had heard of the miraculous powers of Jesus
-There is no evidence he was a disciple of Jesus, “*come down*” – Cana was on high ground, and Capernaum was on the sea of Galilee

V 48 – Some people love the spectacular – they will “grasp at straws”
-Jesus: Some believe based on signs (not the best kind of faith)

V 49 – We can sympathize with the father of the boy

V 50 – Jesus: Distance is no problem with God
-**How did Jesus test the man?** No signs to confirm that a miracle had taken place

V 51 – **What message did he receive on way home?** His son had been healed

V 52 – **When was he healed?** When Jesus did the miracle

V 53-54 – They believed
-**Why did John record this miracle?** Miracles of Jesus were not dependent on closeness to the sick person (distance is no problem)

Revised 2013-01-07