

# JESUS AND A SEARCHING WOMAN

## I. REVIEW OF THE LAST STUDY

- a. JESUS IS AN ACTUAL HISTORICAL FIGURE
- b. JESUS EXISTED IN THE BEGINNING
- c. JESUS IS GOD
- d. GOD, THE WORD, BECAME A MAN
- e. JESUS IS THE PERFECT EXAMPLE FOR US TO FOLLOW



How do these descriptions of who Jesus is help us in our search to know God?

## II. WHAT DOES JESUS LOOK LIKE IN HIS LIFE?

### John 4:1-9

Verses 4-6 speak of a country, Samaria; a city, Sychar, and a specific well that still exists today, though it has been made a religious monument. (Picture at right.) How does Jesus' association with an identifiable location help confirm him as an historical figure?

Verse 6 notes that Jesus was tired. How does the testimony that Jesus was tired fit with what John revealed when he said; "The Word became flesh," (John 1:14)?

Why is it important and why is it helpful for us to know that God became flesh and blood? (the term for God becoming man is incarnation)

In verse 9 the Samaritan woman draws a distinction between herself and Jesus for two reasons, race and gender. Jesus breaks through these two barriers. What does that tell you about Jesus?

Jesus' example of breaking through barriers indicates that God is more interested in people than barriers.



Actual well at Sychar as it looks today in a shrine.

### John 4:10-18

Why might Jesus' claim to offer water that takes away all thirst be appealing to this woman?

What is there about Jesus and his claims that have gotten your attention?

In verses 17-18 Jesus demonstrates an unnatural insight into the woman's life; she has had five husbands and she is not married to the man she is now with. What does this insight tell you about Jesus? (He knows the things hidden in the heart. Jesus is God in the flesh and shows that God will work through all barriers to reach us, even the moral ones.)

Jesus does not view the woman's situation as hopeless. This woman has had five husbands and had maybe having given up on marriage. What message of hope is there in this event for the woman?

What message of hope is there for you?

### John 4:19-30

The woman goes from the point of calling Jesus a prophet to entertaining the possibility that he is the Christ or Messiah. (Both titles mean "the anointed one." It was the priests and the kings of the Old Testament who were anointed.) What has led her to this increase in faith?

How is her faith journey helpful to you?

Jesus states that true worship will be in spirit and in truth. What is a general definition of spirit? Of truth?

Why are both spirit and truth important? What happens if you drop one of them out?

Why is it important to have both? (Jesus understands the need for balance between the heart of man and the truth of God's word. To pursue one to the neglect of the other produces a distortion that God has not intended.)

### John 4:39-42

What is the significance of Jesus being the Christ as revealed in verse 42? (The Christ is the Savior of the world.)

When people figure out who Jesus is, what seems to be a natural response? Why might people be excited about telling other about Jesus?

What excites you about Jesus?

Imagine that you were an unseen observer of this encounter between Jesus and the woman:

- a. What impresses you about the woman?
- b. What impresses you about Jesus?

### III. WHAT DOES THIS EVENT TEACH US ABOUT JESUS?

- a. How is Jesus shown to be an actual historical figure?
- b. How is Jesus shown to be God?
- c. How is Jesus shown to be human?
- d. How is Jesus shown to be the example to follow?
- e. From what you have learned about Jesus so far, why did God become a man and live among us?
- f. What motivates you from this event to want to follow Jesus?

