



UNIT 20 | SESSION 2

JESUS TOLD A WOMAN ABOUT LIVING WATER

JOHN 4

KEY PASSAGE:

Romans 5:8

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How do we know God loves us? We can know that God loves us because He gave us Jesus to forgive the sins of the world.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus offers something better than physical water; He gives us Himself. Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to everyone who comes to Him by faith. We can worship Him as Lord and Savior wherever we are.



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



THE WEEK
PRIOR

PREPARE

PREPARE YOUR HEART TO TEACH; PLAN THE SESSION



10-15
MINUTES

WELCOME

GREET KIDS AND OPEN THE SESSION



25-30
MINUTES

LEARN

TEACH KIDS THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL



15-20
MINUTES

LOVE

LEAD KIDS TO LOVE THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL



15-20
MINUTES

LIVE

LEAD KIDS TO LIVE OUT THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

LEADER Bible Study

A clear reality that echoes throughout the New Testament is that God sends those He saves. Jesus commanded His disciples to go and tell others about Him. (Matt. 28:18-20) The story of Jesus and a Samaritan woman in John 4 also provides reminders of this idea.

Upon the Samaritan woman's hearing that God Himself was standing before her, she left her water—the very thing she had come to the well for—and returned quickly to her town to tell of this man.

Her response was not to run from Jesus but to expend her energy bringing others to Him: "Come, see." At the very least, she concluded that He was the Messiah. At the very most, she had surrendered to His authority over her life and was now trusting in His power to forgive. Either way, she was moved to go and tell.

Immediately following this, Jesus used the question of His need for food to exhort the disciples to go and tell as well. After telling the disciples that He is fulfilled by doing the work of God, Jesus shared with His friends that they too were created to participate in the work of God—sowing and reaping by bringing men, women, boys, and girls to Jesus.

Ultimately, Jesus called these men to follow Him so they would experience joy in

His presence forever, glorify Him, and invite others to do the same. He saved them to participate in the mission of God to make known the hope found only in Him.

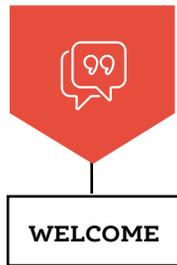
And the same is true of us as well. Those whom God has saved are also sent by Him so that people in their communities and all over the world can receive the invitation to come and see the Savior—Jesus Christ.

Jesus calls us to Himself and then He sends us to go. When we take part in the mission of God, we are demonstrating that we love Jesus more than anything. Before He ascended to heaven, Jesus also promised that we don't take on this mission alone. He will surely be with us—by the gift of the Spirit.

The Lord saves us and commands us to share the hope of the gospel. As we participate in His mission, He promises to be with us and produces joy within us as others come to faith in Him. Jesus is worthy.

TERMS TO KNOW

Samaritan: name first given to the Israelites of the Northern Kingdom, some of whom married Gentile captives from other countries and began to worship their gods



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “Have you ever been really thirsty? Maybe you were outside on a hot day or you just ran a lot. What did you do? Were you thirsty again later?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Get to the Well” on the activity page.

SAY “Wells were common places in the Bible where people, especially women, would draw water. Wells were used by people in nearby towns or by people traveling through. In today’s Bible story, Jesus met a woman at a well and her life was never the same.”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: NEVER THIRSTY

Lead a group demonstration by inviting kids to sit on the floor. Open a 20-ounce water bottle full of water and set it on a table. Gather 10 cups and place them on the table. Ask kids if they think the water bottle will fill up all 10 cups.

Pour the water into the first cup, filling it all the way to the top. Continue filling cups until the water runs out. Point out how many cups are left without water.

SAY “The water bottle could not fill up all 10 cups of water. If we had 10 really thirsty kids in here, we would not be able to give them all a cup full of water. Like this demonstration, sometimes we try to fill our lives up with things that never fill us or leave us satisfied. Unlike this demonstration, there is someone who promises that if we drink the water He gives, we will never be thirsty again. Let’s read our Bible story to learn how Jesus satisfies us.”

OPTION 2: BALANCE THE CUP



Provide each kid with a plastic cup. Line kids up across the room. On your start, lead kids to walk as far across the room as they can while balancing the cup on their heads. Direct the kids to not use their hands to help hold the cup. The kid to walk the farthest is the winner.

Play several rounds, seeing which kids are able to balance the cup on their heads the farthest.

SAY “In some cultures, it was typically the work of women to draw water from the well. Sometimes they would have to balance the jars of water on their heads and then carry them home. In today’s Bible story, a woman who had come to a well to draw water meets Jesus. Let’s read our Bible story to learn about the water Jesus offered her.”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “ Hello, everyone! I’m [your name]. I’m so glad you made it here today. We are going to be reading in our Bibles from the book of John. Did you bring your Bible with you? Hold it up high if you did. [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.]

Clean water is available to about 9 out of 10 people in the world, but not everyone can get water easily. Many people around the world have to travel long distances to get water or must dig wells to find water. In our Bible story, a woman had to walk to a well to draw the water she needed. While she was there, she met Jesus and He gave her some very good news. ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

SAY “ Last week, we learned our big picture question. Do you remember what it is? [Allow responses.] **How do we know God loves us?** Do you remember the answer? [Allow responses.] **We can know that God loves us because He gave us Jesus to forgive the sins of the world.**

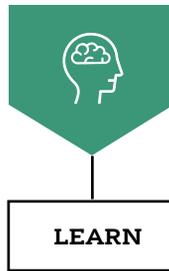
God’s love for us is so great that He was willing to give His only Son so that we could be saved. And God’s love is available to everyone. No matter where you live, what you do, or what you have done. In today’s Bible story, we see how God loved a woman from Samaria who was looked down on by others. Jesus came to the woman and offered her His forgiveness. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “ We have been learning about the life of Jesus in the Gospels. We have seen that Jesus was born, baptized, and tempted but never sinned. He called men to follow Him and become His disciples and then He taught others what the kingdom of God is like.

Nicodemus came to meet Jesus and learned that to enter God’s kingdom and receive eternal life, we must be born again. Today, we will learn that Jesus continued to teach the good news and helped a woman understand that He gives true satisfaction to all who believe in Him. ”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to John 4. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Jesus Told a Woman about Living Water.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

JESUS TOLD A WOMAN ABOUT LIVING WATER

“ Jesus had been teaching in Judea. He and His disciples began traveling back to Galilee. They traveled through Samaria and stopped in a town with a well. Jesus’ disciples went into town to buy food.

While Jesus was at the well, a Samaritan woman came to get water from the well. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.”

The woman was surprised. “Why are You talking to me?” she asked. “You’re a Jew, and I’m a Samaritan.”

Jesus said, “I asked you for a drink. You don’t know who I am. If you did, you would have asked Me for a drink, and I would give you living water.”

The woman was confused. She said, “Sir, this well is deep, and You don’t have a bucket. Where do You get this ‘living water’?”

Jesus said, “Anyone who drinks this well water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks from the water I give will never be thirsty again! In fact, the water I give will become a well inside you, and you will have eternal life.” Jesus was talking about the Holy Spirit, but the woman did not understand.

“Sir,” she said, “give me this water. If I’m not thirsty, I won’t have to keep coming to this well to get water.”

“Go get your husband,” Jesus said.

“I don’t have a husband,” the woman replied.

Jesus knew she was telling the truth. He said, “You don’t have a husband now, but you’ve had five husbands.”

Jesus was right. “I see You are a prophet,” the woman said. Maybe this prophet could explain something to her. She said, “The Samaritans worship here on a mountain, but the Jews say we need to worship at the temple in Jerusalem.”

Jesus said, “Soon you will not need to be in either of those places to worship God in spirit and in truth.”

The woman said, “I know the Messiah is coming. When He comes, He will explain everything to us.”

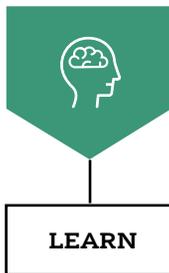
Then Jesus said, “I am the Messiah.”

The woman left and told the people in her town, “Come, see a man who told me

STORYTELLING TIPS

Display a map: Display the New Testament Israel Map and point to the regions of Judea (J3), Galilee (C5), and Samaria (F4,5). Explain that most Jewish people avoided Samaria and took a longer route to Galilee. Tell kids that Jesus went through Samaria and came to tell the good news to everyone.

Act it out: Invite a female leader and a male leader to act out the story while it is being told.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

everything I ever did! Could this be the Messiah?”

Many Samaritans believed in Jesus because of what the woman said. Jesus stayed in their town for two days. Many more believed because of what Jesus said. They told the woman, “We no longer believe because of what you said, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of the world.”

Christ Connection: Jesus offers something better than physical water; He gives us Himself. Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to everyone who comes to Him by faith. We can worship Him as Lord and Savior wherever we are. ”

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ Jesus purposefully went through the region of Samaria on His way back to Galilee. God loves all people and sent Jesus to save everyone who believes in Him, even the woman of Samaria who was not popular.

When Jesus asked the woman for water she was surprised. Usually, Jews and Samaritans avoided one another. But Jesus loved this woman and wanted her to know the truth of the gospel. He told the woman that He could give her living water. But she was confused because He had no way to draw water from the well. What did Jesus mean by this? **[Allow responses.]** When we believe in Jesus, He gives us His Spirit. While we need water to live, we have a much deeper thirst than simply physical water. Jesus wanted the woman to know that His Spirit could satisfy her heart and that in Him she would have all that she needed.

How did Jesus help the woman understand that her heart was not satisfied? Look at John 4:16-18. **[Choose a volunteer to read aloud John 4:16-18.]** The Samaritan woman had sinful relationships that left her broken. But through Jesus she could be made whole and happy in Him!

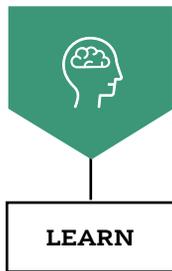
Jesus also reminded the woman that when we believe in Him, He gives us the Holy Spirit so we can worship Him anywhere. What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit will help us do? Look at John 4:23-24. **[Choose a volunteer to read John 4:23-24.]** The Holy Spirit lives inside of us and guides us in truth so we can worship God rightly.

The woman then went and told everyone all Jesus had said. Many believed because of her testimony, and then even more believed when they spoke to Jesus for themselves. ”

3 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ Jesus offers something better than physical water; He gives us Himself. Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to everyone who comes to Him by faith. We can worship Him as Lord and Savior wherever we are. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 20, Session 2” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. What should we do when we worry how others will react to our sinful behavior?
2. How does God’s Spirit help you to live differently?

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Tell kids that pastors and their wives from Florida and Louisiana went to help missionaries in Southern Europe. Explain that while there, they met with a Brazilian pastor who leads a church in Spain.

SAY “ Another Hispanic missionary couple serving in Spain is Gabriel and Camila Santiago. They have built friendships with some Muslim people in Spain through teaching language classes and sponsoring a sports ministry. These ministries help the Santiagos tell the people about Jesus. Many of the Muslim people greet Gabriel as a friend. They trust him and know that he is an immigrant living in a different place just as they are. ”

Play the missions video. Then close in prayer, asking God to show His people how they can be a part of His work around the world.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Romans 5:8 together.

SAY “ God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for us. We can know with confidence that God loves us because of what Jesus has done for us! ”

Lead kids to sit in a circle. Toss a beach ball to a kid and ask him to say the first word of the key passage. Direct him to hit the ball to someone else without letting the ball hit the floor. Explain that she should then say the next word and hit the ball to a new kid. Continue hitting the ball without letting it hit the floor and saying the words to the key passage until it is complete. If the ball falls to the ground, lead kids to start over.

Lead kids to sing “His Own Love for Us (Romans 5:8).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY “ Thank You, God, that You sent Jesus to die for us and show us Your love. Thank You for giving Jesus to satisfy our hearts and give us eternal life. Help us share Jesus with others. Amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**

