



The Words of Jesus Series

Woman, Nobleman, Nazareth

Woman at the Well, Nobleman's Son, Visit to Nazareth

Course Text: John 4, Luke 4, Matthew 13 & Mark 6

Outline

Lesson 1 - Samaritan Woman at the Well

(John 4:5-26)

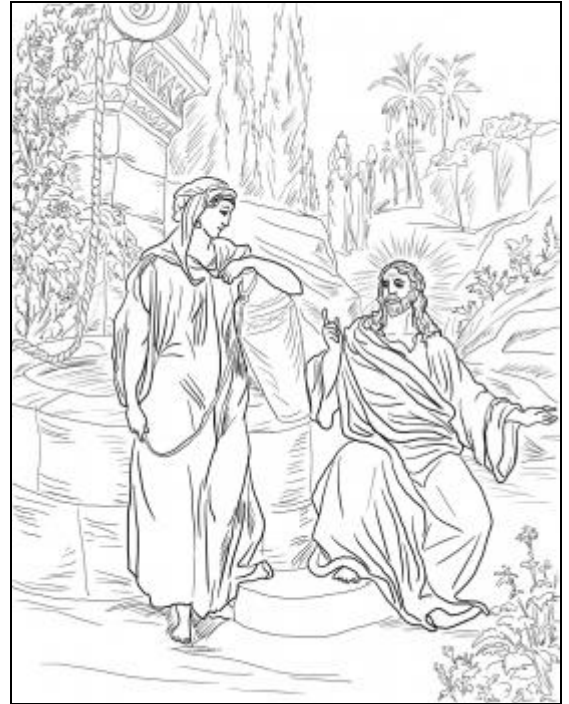
Lesson 2 - Jesus Preaches at Nazareth

(Luke 4:14-30)

Lesson 3 - Nobleman & Second Miracle of Jesus

(John 4:46-54)

Jesus talks to the woman at the well, heals a nobleman's son and preaches at Nazareth to a very unfriendly crowd..



Woman at the Well

by Gustav Dore

Suggested methodology for each lesson:

1. Fellowship (Save most of this for the end of class.)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
3. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
4. Read the lesson's text aloud from the Bible. (... or a few verses at a time as you answer the questions.)
5. Answer and *briefly* discuss the "fill in the blank" questions. (Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer.)
6. On the final "Think & Pray" question everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This will give the Holy Spirit a time to speak.**
7. Discuss your "Think & Pray" answers. (Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer is just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.)
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about one hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about half of that. If you take longer, let each lesson take more than one meeting, or consider breaking into two groups. If you take less time, extra questions are provided for discussion called "For Further Thought" or just start the next chapter. Of course, you can always use the standard questions, "What would you like to remember from this lesson?" or "What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?"

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Lesson 1 - Samaritan Woman at the Well Samaritans were descendants of the Northern Kingdom. They were the remnants of the ten tribes of Israel who had been carried off into captivity 750 years before. The Jews, who were from the Southern Kingdom, were descendants of the tribe of Judah. The Jews worshipped God in the temple at Jerusalem. The Samaritans, on the other hand, worshipped God on a mountain top near a town called Sychar. The tabernacle of God had been in Sychar for about four hundred years, from the time the chosen people came out of Egypt, until King David moved it to Jerusalem. In fact, there are people in Israel today that still worship on that same mountain. The Jews and Samaritans were not friendly with each other at all, and did not deal with each other if they could avoid it. John 4:5 "So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph" This is reported in Genesis 48:22. That is a difference of about 2,000 years and yet they still kept track of it.

Drawing water from a well was hard, hot work usually done by the women of the household. It was generally done very early in the morning or at twilight when it was cooler. It was also a social occasion when the women exchanged family news and talked about things that interested them. If a woman was drawing water at the middle of the day (like the sixth hour), she was probably either a person with an active night life, like a prostitute, or a social outcast for some reason, perhaps both.

Please read John 4:5-26 and answer the following questions:

[1A] Where were the disciples when the conversation started?

[1B] What did Jesus ask the woman to give Him?

[1C] What happens to someone who drinks living water?

[1D] How many times had the woman been married?

[1E] What is the first thing she asks Him about when she realizes He is a prophet.

[1F] Who does Jesus tell her He is?

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The Samaritan Woman meets Jesus at the well. **JO 4:3-42**

At this point the disciples return and the woman goes and spreads the Good News in her city. The people come out to see Jesus and are convinced He is Who He claims to be.

Please read John 4:27-42 and answer the following questions:

[1G] What is the food that satisfies Jesus?

[1H] What convinced the Samaritans to believe?

[1I] What does this story tell us about giving our testimony?

Think & Pray _____

Lesson 1 - Samaritan Woman at the Well

[1A] Where were the disciples when the conversation started?

Grocery shopping Jn 4:8

[1B] What did Jesus ask the woman to give Him? A drink of water Jn 4:10

[1C] What happens to someone who drinks living water?

He will never thirst for it again and live forever Jn 4:14

[1D] How many times had the woman been married? Five Jn 4:18

[1E] What is the first thing she asks Him about when she realizes He is a prophet.

Where true worship should take place Jn 4:19-20 This goes all the way back to Genesis 33:20 "Then he erected there an altar and called it El-Elohe-Israel. When the people came out of Egypt and possessed the land of Canaan this was where they put the tabernacle and Ark of the Covenant until David moved it to Jerusalem several hundred years later. (See Deuteronomy 11:29 & Joshua 8:33) When Solomon's son and Solomon's general led the split of the nations into Northern and Southern kingdoms, this city became the capital of the Northern Kingdom. Clearly this was still a point of division between the Samaritans (the remnant of the Northern Kingdom) and the Jews (the remnant of the Southern Kingdom.)

[1F] Who does Jesus tell her He is? The Messiah Jn 4:25-26 According to the commonly held beliefs of the time it was time for the Messiah to appear. They made these calculations based on Daniel 9:25.

[1G] What is the food that satisfies Jesus? Doing God's will and work. Jn 4:34

[1H] What convinced the Samaritans to believe? His word Jn 4:41-42

[1I] **Testifying:** We should share our first hand testimony of God's salvation soon, enthusiastically, and often.

For further thought:

(1j) What is your testimony? How did you come to know Jesus Christ and how has He changed your life?

(1k) In John 4:10 Jesus is apparently referring to Jeremiah 2:13, where the Lord says He is the "fountain of living waters." I believe Jesus is claiming divinity here. Do you agree? Why or why not.

Lesson 2 - Jesus Preaches at Nazareth

(Context: Luke 4, Matthew 13, Mark 6)

After being in the public ministry for some amount of time Jesus visits the synagogue in his home town of Nazareth. A synagogue is a Jewish church. They would gather there on the Sabbath day to worship God and discuss the Scriptures (what we call the Old Testament.) Please read Luke 4:14-30 and answer the questions below:

[2A] Which book of the Old Testament did Jesus read from? _____

[2B] What did He claim about what He had read? _____

[2C] What did they try to do to Him? _____

Please read Mark 6:1-6 and answer this question:

[2D] What kind of miracles was He able to perform. _____

Please read Matthew 13:54-58 and answer this question:

[2E] How many brother and sisters did Jesus have in Nazareth?

[2F] When Jesus preached at Nazareth it made them so angry they tried to kill Him. Why? What made them angry?

Think & Pray _____

For further thought:

(2g) In Luke 4:30 Jesus escaped the deadly intent of his hometown crowd. If you were to write the script for a movie about that incident, what exactly would happen? Would He give them a look and they back down? Would he pass through them like He was just a hologram? Would He knock them down and run before they recovered? Why do you think of it that way?

(2h) In Mark 6:4-6 it says Jesus didn't do many miracles in Nazareth. Luke 4:23 says He did a lot more in Capernaum. Why were the places different? Which town better describes your life? Is it difficult for you to see miracles in your life?

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Jesus stirred such angst within the Jewish community that his profile was found in all the postal offices in the land. **Mk 3:6, Mt 26:4**

Lesson 2 - Jesus Preaches at Nazareth

[2A] Which book of the Old Testament did Jesus read from? Isaiah Lk 4:17

[2B] What did He claim about what He had read?

That He had fulfilled this prophesy in front of them. Lk 4:21

[2C] What did they try to do to Him?

Throw Him off a cliff Lk 4:29

[2D] What kind of miracles was He able to perform.

Healing a few sick people Mk 6:5

[2E] How many brother and sisters did Jesus have in Nazareth?

4 brothers and 2 or more sisters Mt 13:55-56

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and the angry crowd took Jesus out of town to the edge of a cliff to throw him off, but Jesus passed through the midst of them. **Luke 4:28-30**

There had to be at least two sisters because it says, "sisters" not just "sister."

[2F] **Angry in Nazareth:** I think they were angry because He claimed He was the messiah, but that it was not God's will that they see Him do any miracles. They believed he was lying about both of these things. What would you think of someone who said, "I can do magic tricks, but only if I like the audience, and since I do not like you, you will see none." Of course, that is not what He meant at all, but they took it that way. What He meant was that He was here to do the Father's will, not His own.

FISHING LURE

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."
- MATTHEW 4:19 NIV

Lesson 3 - Nobleman & the Second Miracle of Jesus

All we really know about this "nobleman" is that he was a "nobleman." This probably meant he was wealthy, influential, and belonged to the circle of friends and supporters around King Herod. Please read John 4:46-54 and answer the following questions.

[3A] How sick was the man's son? _____

[3B] What happened when Jesus told the man that his son was going to live?



The royal official said to Jesus, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus said to him, "Go; your son lives." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off.

[3C] In the story of the nobleman's son, (John 4:46-54), how was the boy healed?

Think & Pray _____

Course Conclusion

[3D] If you had a private conversation with Jesus, what would it be about?

Think & Pray _____

Lesson 3 - Nobleman & the Second Miracle of Jesus

[3A] How sick was the man's son? Close to death Jn 4:47

[3B] What happened when Jesus told the man that his son was going to live?

The man believed Him. Jn 4:50

[3C] **Healing Method Used:** The Bible does not say how the boy was healed. This is a mystery and miracle that happens to us all the time. There are always three things going on with the miraculous answers to prayer: we pray, we trust, and God does His perfect will. The man asked Jesus, He trusted Jesus, and it was God's will that the boy live. More than that we can not say, at least, based on what the Bible says about it here

Course Conclusion for Further Thought Questions

(3e) Compare the conversations Jesus had with the people in this course with conversations you have had with people. Have you ever had any that were similar to these? Are these conversations more similar to conversations you have had with people, or are they more similar to conversations you have had with God? Why?

(3f) I believe Jesus' knowledge of the Samaritan woman's past and His ability to heal a child from a distance are clear evidence of His Lordship. Jesus knows this history of the Samaritan woman demonstrating His omniscience., and heals the Nobleman's son without going anywhere near him, demonstrating his omnipotence and possibly his omnipresence. Jesus is Lord. Even if you agree with me that Jesus is Lord, you may not agree with my interpretation and application of these passages as good evidence of this belief. Do you agree? Why or why not?

(3g) What verse or passage from this course might you choose to memorize, and why?

(3h) What did you learn in this course that you would most like to remember.

(3i) If someone asked you what this course was about what would you tell them.