

You'd better look again

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Scripture

The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?" Jesus replied, "If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water." "But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket," she said, "and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water? ... Jesus replied, "Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life." "Please, sir," the woman said, "give me this water! Then I'll never be thirsty again, and I won't have to come here to get water." "Go and get your husband," Jesus told her "I don't have a husband," the woman replied. Jesus said, "You're right! You don't have a husband— for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certainly spoke the truth!" John 4:9-18

Some talking points

- If we're not careful we'll make Jesus into a mirror image of ourselves, making him look like a suburban protestant, an urban hipster, a tea party spokesman.
- This life with God is an expanding life, a life opening up to others, welcoming new ideas, frequently revising what we think and believe.
- If there is one sin that may be unforgiveable, it could be withholding the grace of God that has been given to us from people who need it as much as we do.

Discussion Questions

1. What impact does the conversation between the Samaritan woman and Jesus have on you?
2. What are you thirsting for? Friendship? Acceptance? Community? Forgiveness? Healing? Boldness? Economic security?
3. How did the message change how you think about the Samaritan woman's situation?
4. What is the most important thing you want to take away from the message? How will it be applied?

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Group Life @ Middletown

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