



Jesus Talks with the Woman at the Well

Lesson Aim: To understand how only a relationship with Christ can satisfy our deepest thirst.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The King Who Serves

THE WORD

What He Has Done: Jesus taught the woman about eternal life and His identity.

Scripture Focus: John 4:6-30, 39-42 **Key Verse:** John 4:13-14

Christ Connection: Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm 42:1-2

THE WAY

The Big Question: What are the things you can't live without?

UNIT 2 FOCUS VERSE

"Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.

For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Me will save it.

What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?" Luke 9:23-24

Unit 2: The King Who Serves			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim*
7	Jesus Forgives the Woman Caught in Sin, John 8:1-11	Jesus forgave the woman and stopped the condemnation.	To recognize the difference between judging a behavior and judging a person.
8	Jesus Answers Nicodemus, John 3:1-21	Jesus answered Nicodemus' questions about being born again.	To explore what it means to be born again. (Salvation message)
9	Jesus Talks with the Woman at the Well, John 4:6-30, 39-42	Jesus taught the woman about eternal life and His identity.	To understand how only a relationship with Christ can satisfy our deepest thirst.
10	Jesus Visits Mary and Martha, Luke 10:38-42	Jesus encouraged Martha to spend time with Him.	To gain perspective on the importance of time with Jesus.
11	Jesus Seeks Zacchaeus, Luke 19:1-10	Jesus sought Zacchaeus and went to his home.	To see that Jesus pursues and transforms us.

LEADER'S ENCOURAGEMENT This week, read Revelation 22:1-6. Please join us in praying, "Lord, thank You for coming to all people and offering us the living water of eternal life. Let us be Your witnesses. Amen."

Lesson Aims are based on reflecting God's character as we participate in His actions to, for, and in the world.

Take Home Elements: The Journal Entry, Action Card, and Family Discussion Card may be sent home to encourage students to reflect on the lesson. The Journal Entry is an in-depth personal study. The Action Card is a visual reminder of the Bible story, God's action, and how we can join into that action. The Family Discussion Card gives parents and guardians a way to engage their students in what they are learning.

Leader's Tip: For larger gatherings, teach THE WELCOME, THE WORSHIP, and THE WORD in a large group setting and divide into small groups for discussion with THE WAY.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

Suggestions: Choose a game that focuses on concepts related to the lesson such as eternal life, who Jesus is, thirst, water, wells, or buckets.

ACTIVITY OPTION 1: BUCKET RELAY

Purpose: To introduce Jesus' teaching about living water.

Supplies: 2 small buckets, 2 large buckets filled with water, 2 large sponges

Directions:

1. Divide the students into two teams and have them line up behind a starting line.
2. Give each team a small empty bucket and a large sponge.
3. At the finish line, place two larger buckets filled with water.
4. On your signal, the first person on each team must run to the team's water bucket, dunk the sponge in, run back, and squeeze all the water from the sponge into the team's empty bucket.
5. The student then passes the sponge to the next person in line who repeats step 3.
6. Play continues until one team fills their empty bucket with water and is declared the winner.
7. Get Really Messy Option: Just before you begin, tell students, "Wait! There is one more rule." The wet sponges must be carried ABOVE their heads as they run back from the water buckets.

ACTIVITY OPTION 2: CRACKER WHISTLE CHALLENGE

Purpose: To introduce the idea of thirst and how we all need water.

Supplies: Saltine crackers

Directions:

1. Choose 2-4 students to play. Give each student three crackers.
2. On your signal, the students eat the three crackers and then need to whistle. The first student who is able to whistle wins. It's more difficult than it sounds!
3. You may choose to play again with a new group of students. End the game by bringing all the winners up to compete against each other.



The King who serves

THE WORSHIP

Note to Leader: The instructions below are suggestions only. Adapt this time of worship to suit your environment, resources, and cultural expression. Encourage students to broaden their view of corporate worship by including a variety of expressions such as group prayer, group praise, silent meditation, singing, listening to music, reading scripture, collecting an offering, drama, dance, visual arts, and/or a physical exploration of nature or neighborhoods.

Ideas for Optional Visuals: _____

The Seven Stars of Lent

If this lesson is taught during the Lenten season (the 40 days before Easter), we recommend the Seven Stars of Lent activity located at ResourceWell.org under Other Resources. Choose one star for each week of the Lent season.

Today, we worship God as the King who serves us. Jesus did not come to earth for personal gain; He came to minister to us and to give us eternal life. In today's Bible story, the woman at the well needed eternal life. Jesus called it living water. Jesus doesn't care if we are male or female, what we look like, where we come from, or what we have done. Jesus gives living water (eternal life) to anyone who follows Him.

Read Unit 2 Focus Verse: Luke 9:23-24.



Sing worship songs that focus on our relationship with Jesus.



Read Revelation 21:5-7.



Invite students to offer sentences of praise to God by completing the following sentence:
"Lord, we worship You for _____."



Jesus talks with the woman at the well

THE WORD Presentation

Note to Leader: Adapt this segment to your setting (Sunday School class, youth group, multi-age gathering, youth camp, retreat, etc.). In some settings, you may choose to have a student read the scripture aloud, and then have the leader, in his or her own words, briefly communicate the Teaching Points, the Christ Connection, and the Big Question. In other settings, a teacher, pastor, or other experienced speaker may present a lecture or extended message that includes those same elements.

Ideas for Optional Visuals:

You may choose to include an object lesson, video clip, drama, dance, song, or work of art to illustrate the teaching points.

Option 1: _____

Option 2: _____



TEACHING POINTS

Consider current culture and influences impacting your students, and adjust the teaching accordingly.

Read the suggested scripture and communicate each of the points noted.

The leader or a student reads John 4:6-30, 39-42 aloud.

- Jesus used moments from everyday life to help people understand who He was. To Peter and the other fishermen, Jesus spoke about being fishers of men. To Nicodemus, He spoke about being born again. To the woman at the well, He spoke of living water. He used what they knew to point them to God in the way they could most easily understand.
- In Bible times, women got water from the well at the same time to socialize. The fact that this woman was alone at the well in the midday heat showed she was probably a social outcast.
- Jews did not associate with Samaritans, much less Samaritan social outcasts. By inviting the Samaritan woman into a conversation, Jesus was crossing the cultural barriers of the time.
- The woman even asked Jesus why He was talking to her! The answer to her question is Jesus is God. He sees us as equally important and uniquely created for a relationship with Him. Even today, we have cultural, social, and religious boundaries that divide us. Jesus crosses all those boundaries—because He is God.
- When we are physically thirsty, activities and food might temporarily distract us from thirst, but only water will satisfy that thirst. The woman came to the well for her physical thirst, but Jesus offered her more. He offered her living water, which is the eternal life that satisfies the thirst of the soul.

THE WORD Presentation *continued*

- God put a spiritual longing inside each of us; it's a thirst that can only be satisfied by a relationship with Jesus. Often, we try to satisfy that thirst with things, accomplishments, acceptance, serving others, or being loved. All these are good things, but when we settle for just these things, our souls are still thirsty. Without Jesus, our hearts stay thirsty. The person who drinks the water Jesus offers "will never thirst."
- When the woman went to the townspeople, she left her water jar that brought her to the well in the first place. In the same way, once our spiritual thirst is quenched, we no longer look to earthly things to satisfy us.
- Jesus told her He was the Messiah. Even though she had just met Him, she told everyone about Him. After meeting Him for themselves, the townspeople recognized Jesus as the Savior of the world. Many of people believed in Him and received eternal life.



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

In the whole story of God, what's the connection between this New Testament story and the Old Testament?

- Our thirst for God has always been within us. Let's see how one of the psalmists describes it.

The leader or a student reads Psalm 42:1-2.

- 700 years before Jesus spoke about living water, He spoke through the prophet Isaiah, inviting us to come to the water and find life for our souls.

The leader or a student reads Isaiah 55:1-3.



THE BIG QUESTION

Introduce and elaborate on this question. Students will answer it in their discussion group.

What are the things you can't live without?



THE WAY Discussion



GETTING STARTED Display and review the Discussion Group Covenant below:

**We will include everyone here, treating one another with respect and kindness.
We will encourage everyone here to express their thoughts and opposing views.**

Every student shares his or her best experience or greatest challenge of the past week.



READ IT AGAIN

Read John 4:4-30, 39-42 and Psalm 42:1-2 silently or aloud.

What do you think Jesus means by “living water”?

Who did Jesus tell her He was?

After meeting Him for themselves, who did the people say Jesus was?



THE BIG QUESTION Invite students to share their answers.

What are the things you can’t live without?



TAKE ACTION Lead students in a discussion using the questions below.

What does it tell you about Jesus that He would stop and talk with this woman in spite of the cultural barriers between them?

What do you think caused the woman to believe Jesus was the Messiah?

Even though she was an outcast, the people listened and responded when she told them about Jesus. How does that encourage you to talk with others about Jesus?

Ask each student to complete this sentence: **God calls us to share what we know about Jesus, SO THAT others might _____.**



PRAY Share prayer requests and answered prayers.

Have students pray with partners, or have the whole group pray together.



FINAL FIVE MINUTES When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

Give each student Action Card #9 and Journal Entry #9. Take home today’s Action Card as a reminder of how we can join in what God is doing. Use the Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Complete your Journal Entries at home and keep them together in a notebook or in your Bible. Optional: Provide parent or guardian with Family Discussion Card #9.

KINGS & KINGDOMS JOURNAL ENTRY #9

Jesus Talks with the Woman at the Well
John 4:6-30, 39-42

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

- **Pray!!!** Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what He wants you to learn from this passage.
- Now read **John 4:6-30, 39-42** and **Psalms 42:1-2**.
- Who did Jesus tell her He was?
- After meeting Him for themselves, who did the people say Jesus was?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- What do you think it was that made the woman believe Jesus was the Messiah?
- Even though they had not met before, Jesus knew details of the woman's life. What details of your life would you be surprised to hear Jesus talk about?

WHAT CAN I DO?

- What are the things in your life that you can't live without?
- Have you ever felt thirsty for God, wanting to be closer to Him? If so, describe that feeling.
- Do you know someone who might want to be closer to God? If you could talk with them about Jesus, what would you say?

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Action Card #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

John 4:6-30, 39-42

Jesus gave the woman **LIVING WATER**.

We are **CALLED TO SHARE** what
we know about Jesus.

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?

Family Discussion #9/K&K

JESUS TALKS WITH THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Read John 4:6-30, 39-42.

What did Jesus mean by “**LIVING WATER**”?

When have you told someone about Jesus?