



Connection Group Questions
September 20, 2020
"He Had To Go"

***"Now he had to go through Samaria."
~ John 4:4***

Open

What was the thirstiest you've ever been? What was the situation? What were your thoughts and other feelings? (This can be a humorous story, or a serious one.)

This story ultimately brings to the question of "spiritual thirst" and Jesus' claim to be living water giving eternal life.

Discuss

Read John 4:1-6

George went into detail surround the history of Samaria and the 7 centuries of hatred that grew between the Samaritans and the Jews. You can read about that period in 2 Kings 17. By the time of Jesus the Jews had literally worn a path going out of their way to go around Samaria and avoid all contact.

Using this as a metaphor of how many of us live, what problems have you been going around for far too long? Is it a personal problem you need to confess or confront? Is it a relational problem in your marriage? Your kids? Your parents or other family?

Extending this metaphor further, what problems have we been going around in the church or in culture? Are we guilty of "demonizing" people who hold different opinions, positions or beliefs? As Jesus sought to love and reconcile with the Samaritans do you think we are called to reconcile and love people we've estranged?

Read 4:7-26

While this is the majority of the story, the point is pretty straight forward: Jesus is the spring of living water welling up to eternal life.

Have you, like the woman at the well, argued with God regarding offers/promised he has made in the Bible? Have you thrown theological/religious arguments at God that take the focus off of you and make them abstract? For example, "I have a hard time believing in a loving god when there is suffering in the world." While this is a real question to be wrestled with and discussed, it doesn't change the offer of Jesus to satisfy our thirst and give us eternal life.

John 4:28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" 30 They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

The woman doesn't propose answers or explanations or excuses. She simply invites. Come and see, could this be?" How can this be a model and example for our outreach and evangelism?

39 Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. 41 And because of his words many more became believers. 42 They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

Apply

Where is God calling you to go today or in the next season of life? What must you confront, confess or take control over in your life?

Who can you invite to "come and see?" Describe what that invitation might look like and how you'll make it happen.

In the end they declare that Jesus is the savior of the world. Have you made this confession? Who are you praying for to make this confession?