

The Samaritan Woman

“Outcast by Society, Accepted by Jesus”

Cast of Characters:

Samaritan Woman – she was a woman in a culture that devalued women. She was a member of the despised Samaritans. She has lived an immoral life-style and was ostracized by other Samaritan women. She was desperately in search of love, acceptance and purpose and had not been able to find it.

[Samaritans and Jews had major racial and religious prejudices. The Samaritans were descendants from foreigners brought to the region centuries earlier to replace the ten tribes of Israel deported by the Assyrians. The foreigners intermarried with the remaining Israelites, leaving a mixed race that worshipped God, but according to their own traditions rather than the Word of God. To Jews, the Samaritans represented the downfall of their nation and also represented the forbidden intermarriage between Jews and Gentiles].

Jesus Christ – a Jewish man, who is also the loving and accepting and grace-giving Messiah.

THE STORY (John 4: 1-42). Jesus shocks a Samaritan woman by speaking to her (a Jew and a man actually speaking to a Samaritan and a woman – extremely radical!). Jesus engages her in conversation - and masterfully guides from talking about water to eventually sharing about the Messiah (Himself). She believes in Jesus as the Messiah and excitedly introduces Him to her fellow villagers. There is a great Rest of the Story:

- 1) The Samaritan woman is cleansed and transformed and has a new relationship with Jesus Christ – her Messiah! She finally finds the love and acceptance and purpose in life she was looking for.
- 2) The Samaritan woman became a vibrant and successful witness for Jesus!

LIFE LESSONS FROM THE SAMARITAN WOMAN:

- 1) God’s grace is greater than all our sins.
- 2) We should never look down at “sinners” and feel that they are beyond hope. Jesus loves sinners (like you and me!).
- 3) New believers are often the best evangelists.
- 4) Promiscuous sex is not the key to happiness. Only Jesus can give us the full unconditional love and acceptance we all hope for.

OTHER LESSONS?

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