

THE FORGOTTEN JESUS PODCAST

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Season 5, Episode 13

Wisdom from the Well

John 4

Discussion

1. **Who were the Samaritans, and why were they despised by the Jews?**
 - What cultural and historical factors led to this animosity?
2. **Why was it unusual for Jesus to travel through Samaria?**
 - What does this say about Jesus' mission and willingness to break social and cultural barriers?
3. **How did Jesus approach the woman at the well, and what does this reveal about His character?**
 - Why is it significant that Jesus spoke to her despite her being a Samaritan woman?
4. **What was unusual about the time of day when the woman came to the well, and how might this reflect her personal circumstances?**
 - How does this detail help us understand the woman's situation?
5. **What is the significance of Jesus offering the "living water" to the woman?**
 - Why is it important that Jesus used water as a metaphor for the spiritual satisfaction He provides?
6. **What was Jesus revealing when He spoke about the woman's multiple husbands?**
 - How does this moment highlight the transformative power of truth and grace?
7. **How does the woman's encounter with Jesus mirror the larger story of Samaria's spiritual condition?**
 - In what ways does her story serve as a metaphor for Israel's spiritual journey?
8. **What do you think led the woman to go back to her town and testify about Jesus?**

- How did her life change after this encounter, and what impact did that have on her community?
 - 9. **Why do you think John contrasts the woman at the well with Nicodemus in John 3?**
 - What does this reveal about the inclusivity of the Gospel message?
 - 10. **How can we learn from the woman's testimony when it comes to sharing our faith with others?**
 - What can we take from her boldness and simplicity in telling others about Jesus?
-

Application Questions

1. **In what areas of your life have you been searching for fulfillment in things that cannot satisfy?**
 - How can you begin to seek the "living water" Jesus offers?
2. **How do you respond when you encounter people who are culturally or socially different from you?**
 - Are there barriers that you need to break down in order to share the love of Christ?
3. **When faced with uncomfortable truths about your own life, how do you respond?**
 - How can you allow the truth to lead you toward healing and transformation?
4. **In what ways can you be more open and honest with Jesus, as the woman was, even when it's difficult?**
 - What steps can you take toward transparency in your relationship with God?
5. **Who in your life needs to hear the message of Jesus, and how can you be a witness to them like the woman was?**
 - What are practical ways you can share your testimony?
6. **Is there anyone in your community who feels marginalized or outcast?**
 - How can you show them the love and grace of Jesus?
7. **How does the story of the woman at the well encourage you to embrace the inclusivity of the Gospel?**
 - In what ways can you be more intentional about reaching out to people from all walks of life?
8. **How does your understanding of Jesus' willingness to engage with the Samaritan woman challenge your view of evangelism?**
 - What can you learn from His example for your own approach to sharing the Gospel?
9. **Have you ever had a moment where a truth revealed by Jesus radically changed your life?**
 - How can you reflect on and share that experience with others?
10. **What does it look like to let go of your "water jar," as the woman did, to follow Jesus and spread His message?**
 - Are there things in your life that you need to let go of to fully embrace God's calling?

Prayer Prompt

Dear Lord,

Thank You for the living water that You offer us—satisfaction, healing, and life that never runs dry. Help us to reflect on our own encounter with You and to be bold in sharing our testimony with others, just as the woman at the well did. Teach us to break down barriers, love those who feel rejected, and embrace the transformative power of Your truth. Guide us in making disciples and spreading the good news of Jesus to everyone we encounter.

In Your name, Amen.

Additional Resources

1. **Book:** *The Gospel of John: A Theological Introduction* by Andreas J. Köstenberger – a deeper dive into the theological themes of John's Gospel
 2. **Podcast:** *The Bible Project* – episodes on the Gospel of John and the themes of living water and spiritual renewal
 3. **Article:** *The Samaritan Woman and the Mission of Jesus* – an article exploring the cultural and historical background of the Samaritan woman and the significance of her encounter with Jesus
 4. **Video:** *Jesus and the Woman at the Well: A Theological Reflection* – a video study on the encounter from a theological perspective
 5. **Bible Study:** *The Gospel of John: An Inductive Study* – a Bible study guide for a deeper exploration of John's Gospel
-

This guide aims to foster a meaningful discussion about Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman and its profound implications for our faith and witness.