

# The Samaritan Woman at Jacob's Well

John 4:1-42



New Testament 2  
Part 2: Jesus the Master Teacher

## SUNDAY MORNING

New Testament 2 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

### SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

John 4:1-42; Galatians 3:28

### MEMORY WORK:

“God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth” (John 4:24).

### SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- [“John 4:24”](#)
- [“I Tell Everyone about Jesus”](#)
- [“Jesus Loves the Little Children”](#)
- [“Come and Go with Me”](#)

### LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be scriptural.]
- [Miracles & Teachings of Jesus](#) Bible fact cards (provided under “N.T. 2 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)
- Apologetics Press' [Bible Timeline](#)
- “Summary of the Bible” from “[Kids Prep](#)” CD by Jeff Miller
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- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- [“Map of New Testament World”](#) (provided in map section of curriculum Web site)
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- Pictures of children/people from all over the world
- “Well” made of cardboard box or trashcan covered with colored/painted paper or poster board. Or make a half-well that will sit flush with the wall, along with two large cardboard figures of Jesus and the woman.
- Pictures of your congregation's missionaries and a map pinpointing the locations where they work



## PERSONAL APPLICATION:

Jesus wants us to teach and be kind to other people, no matter who they are.

## LESSON STARTS HERE

### INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)


We have learned a lot from studying about Jesus. We learned about why it is so important to worship God and how we should worship Him. Why do we worship God? (To show our love to God.) We must worship the way the Bible tells us and we must have the right attitude. Today, we are going to learn about Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at a well. Jesus was always looking for people to teach about God, and we should also tell others about God, just like Jesus did!

### INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

Last week we studied about how God wants us to worship and how upset Jesus became when men had turned the Temple, a special place of worship, into a place to make money and to steal from people. One of the things we discussed was that **how** we worship God is very important. In today's lesson, we learn from Jesus that God doesn't care **who** we are. He just wants us to do what's right.

### POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Jesus left the southern part of Palestine, called Judea, and started north for Galilee (John 4:3-5). When traveling, most Jews would not travel through the area between Judea and Galilee, called **Samaria**, because they despised the people who lived there (Samaritans). But Jesus and His disciples walked through Samaria, instead of taking the road on the east side of the Jordan River. The disciples were probably nervous and uncomfortable about traveling through this region.



**HISTORICAL NOTE: Samaria:** The country of Samaria was home to the ten tribes of the Northern Kingdom, initially led by Jeroboam. It included the biblical cities of Shechem, Sychar, Shiloh, and Bethel. The city of Samaria was established by Omri, father of Ahab, as the capitol of the Northern Kingdom (Israel) about 880 B.C. The Assyrians, under the leadership of Sargon, completely destroyed the city and surrounding areas in 721 B.C. Sargon deported most of the population to territories that he already controlled, and people from other Assyrian provinces were brought in later to settle the region. In time, the remaining Jews and Gentiles intermarried and became the “mixed race” known as Samaritans. Their religion became a mixture of Judaism and paganism. After the return of many Jews to Palestine from Babylonian captivity, and subsequent reforms under Ezra and Nehemiah, the Samaritans built their own temple on Mt. Gerizim and established their own priesthood. The pagan element of their religion was gradually eliminated, leaving one based solely on the five books of Moses—with their own revisions. For many reasons, the Jews and Samaritans grew farther and farther apart, and their hatred for one another grew as well. A small group of Samaritans remain today in Nablus and Jaffa, Israel.

2. About **6:00 in the evening**, Jesus and the disciples arrived at an ancient well named after Jacob, near the village of Sychar. Tired, hungry, and thirsty, Jesus waited at the well while the

disciples went into the village to buy food. A woman came out to the well, and Jesus asked her for a drink. She was surprised that He would speak to her, not only because she was a Samaritan and He was a Jew, but also because men did not usually speak to women they did not know.



**NOTE:** John 4:6 indicates that Jesus came to the well at “about the sixth hour.” If John is using Jewish time, the sixth hour would be noon. If he was using Roman time, 6:00 AM or 6:00 PM could be possible interpretations. Well-respected brotherhood scholars, J.W. McGarvey and Wayne Jackson (as well as other notable scholars), believed Roman time is being referenced [J.W. McGarvey (1914), *The Four-Fold Gospel: A Harmony of the Gospels*; Wayne Jackson (n.d.), “Jesus and the Samaritan Woman,” <https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/282-jesus-and-the-samaritan-woman>]. John’s use of Roman time helps to clear up other alleged Bible contradictions as well (for example, see <https://apologeticspress.org/at-what-hour-was-jesus-crucified-4759/>). Jackson notes that the description of Jesus being “wearied from his journey” suggests 6:00 PM (as opposed to 6:00 AM).

3. Jesus told the woman that He could offer her “living water.” He meant that He would help her to find eternal life, but she did not understand. He told her to go get her husband, but the woman said she had no husband. Jesus knew that she was living with a man who was not her husband, and she had been married five times before. She realized quickly that Jesus knew too much about her. She appeared to become uncomfortable and changed the subject.
4. The woman decided to ask Jesus questions about where to worship and how to worship. Which ways were correct: the ways of the Jews or those of the Samaritans? Jesus made it clear that there are not many acceptable ways to worship God. There was (and is) only one way to worship God: in spirit and in truth. Jesus told her that a time was coming when the location of worship would be irrelevant. Whether at Mount Gerizim (where the Samaritans worshipped) or Jerusalem (where the Jews worshipped), God could be worshipped anywhere, as long as that worship is according to God’s instructions (i.e., “in truth,” cf. John 17:17) and with the right attitude (“in spirit”). [He was speaking of the Christian era, which would begin after His death].
5. The woman knew that Jesus was more than an ordinary man. He had told her private things about her life and what was on her heart. She said that she had heard that the Messiah (the Christ, the anointed One of God) would come one day. Jesus said, “I who speak to you am He.” She was so excited that she ran back into town, telling everyone she met that a man who could be the Messiah was sitting at the well outside their village. Many of the townspeople followed her to the well to see and hear Jesus.
6. Jesus spoke to the woman not as a Samaritan woman, but as a woman who needed salvation. He taught anyone and everyone who would listen, no matter who they were. He did not treat people differently because of the way they dressed, the color of their skin, or where they were from. He treated everyone the same, knowing that everyone needed to hear His words and know of God’s love for them. Today, He expects us to do the same. His church is a family made up of many different “kinds” of people. Like the Samaritan woman, Jesus wants us to tell our friends and neighbors about Him.



**RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS:** See the article “**Hyperbole: A Common Biblical Figure of Speech**” by Kyle Butt on the Apologetics Press Web site for a response to an alleged discrepancy in this story.

**PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS** (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#).

**Ages 2-5:**

- “[The Samaritan Woman at Jacob’s Well Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- Help children make their own “wells” (with sugar cubes or small rocks) and figures of Jesus and the Samaritan woman (with spoons, popsicle sticks, or chenille wires).
- Help the children make a small booklet of major words from the story that the children can copy or trace.
- Role play the story or ask two adults or teenagers to act it out.

**1st-2nd Graders:**

- “[The Samaritan Woman](#)” crossword puzzle (provided in activity sheets)
- Get children to write letters of appreciation to our missionaries or notes to people inviting them to worship services and Bible class.
- Role play the story or ask two adults or teenagers to act it out.
- Have the children read *Jesus and the Woman at the Well*, by Melinda Busch, Arch books (DISCLAIMERS: p. 12—remove the middle paragraph starting with “But Sir...”; skip the note to parents)

**3rd-4th Graders:**

- “[The Samaritan Woman](#)” crossword puzzle (provided in activity sheets)
- Get children to write letters of appreciation to our missionaries or notes to people inviting them to worship services and Bible class.
- Role play the story or ask two adults or teenagers to act it out.
- Have the children read:
  - John 4

**SONGS:**

**“JOHN 4:24”**

Author: Jeff Miller

(Tune: See “[Hidden In My Heart II](#)” CD)

**“JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN” ([Click to Hear](#))**

Author: Traditional

Jesus loves the little children,  
All the children of the world,  
Red and yellow, black and white,  
They’re all precious in His sight.  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus died for all the children....  
Jesus rose for all the children....

**“I TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS” ([Click to Hear](#))**

Author: Unknown\*  
(Tune: “Jesus Loves Me”)

Teach God’s love to everyone.  
Tell them of His only Son.  
Tell them how He loves us so.  
For the Bible tells us so.

**“COME AND GO WITH ME” ([Click to Hear](#))**

Author: Unknown\*  
(Tune: “Bringing in the Sheaves”)

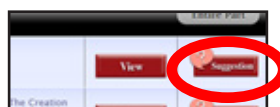
Who will tell the children who live so far from here?  
Who will tell the children Jesus is so dear?  
Who will tell the children Jesus loves them so?  
I will tell the children wherever I go.

**CHORUS:**

Come and go with me.  
Come and go with me.  
We will tell the children  
Wherever they may be.

\*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

\*\*\* IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE  
“SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE  
CURRICULUM WEB SITE.





# The Samaritan

## Woman at Jacob's Well

John 4:1-42



New Testament 2  
Part 2: Jesus the Master Teacher

### WEDNESDAY EVENING

#### SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

John 4:1-42; Galatians 3:28

#### MEMORY WORK:

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#### SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF SUNDAY’S LESSON FOR WORDS):

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- Pictures of your congregation’s missionaries and a map pinpointing the locations where they work





## PERSONAL APPLICATION:

Jesus wants us to teach and be kind to other people, no matter who they are.

## INTRODUCTION:

- Briefly review Sunday morning's lesson (see [N.T. 2 Review Questions](#) for example questions)
- [N.T. 2 Bible Facts Flashcards](#) (provided under "N.T. 2 Bible Facts" on curriculum Web site)

## POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Talk more about the church being a family made up of people from all over the world.
2. If available, have a missionary, or someone who has gone to another country on mission work, talk to the class about the people that make up the congregations where they have gone. Have them bring pictures to show of the people if they can.
3. With OLDER CHILDREN, discuss 2 Corinthians 5:15-16: (1) Jesus died for **all** people; (2) we should no longer see people "according to the flesh," but as Jesus sees them. [See also 1 Samuel 16:7.]

## PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- See Sunday morning's lesson.
- Make a "half well" out of construction paper for each child. Cut out a rectangular piece of brown or gray construction paper. Help/have children glue their rectangle onto a solid piece of construction paper. (You will probably have to make a tab at each end of the well to glue to the paper.) Let them draw Jesus and the Samaritan woman beside the well. Write either the memory verse or the Scripture reference at the top of their papers.

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