



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel
 John 4:1-15
 From Sermon 6.18.23

Read *John 4:1-15*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Arriving in chapter 4, we now get another narrative encounter. This one is incredibly unique: the woman at the well. It would have been totally unorthodox and socially inappropriate for that day and time. It's another one of the practices of Jesus that further enraged His critics and enemies. For us, however, it's a picture of grace and a preview of the Church to come.

1. Jesus engages with the most unlikely of prospects in this account. List and discuss the stark differences between Nicodemus (John Ch.3) and Woman at the Well (John Ch.4).

<u>Nicodemus</u>	<u>Woman at the Well</u>
Male	<u>Female</u>
He came <u>to Jesus</u>	Jesus came to her
A Somebody (named)	<u>A Nobody (unnamed)</u>
<u>Pious</u>	Pariah
Educated	Uneducated
Judean	<u>Samaritan</u>

2. Read *1 Corinthians 2:12-14*. What truth is God the Holy Spirit having Paul explain here? The utter inability of the unconverted to understand the symbolic teaching illustrations of God and deep truths of the Bible. Natural man can only for a physical, worldly understanding on symbolism and parables.

2a. What symbolic terms did each encountered person struggle with?

- Nicodemus: "You must be born again"
- Woman: Jesus alone offers the Living Water

3. While Jesus offers the life-giving Living Water, the world offers cheap substitutes and poisonous counterfeits. Read *Jeremiah 2:13*. Discuss the term: "that can hold no water". List some examples of broken, lifeless substitutes popular among man. Various Answers. But, include: self-help, religion, works, morality, worldliness, others, success, money, possessions, recreation, substances, food, spending....

4. Who is offered the Living Water, exclusively found in Jesus Christ? Everyone. Everyone is welcome and all are invited.

5. Just as physical water is made up of two components and contains other minerals (and, sometimes, chemicals), the living water is more than just salvation/deliverance from hell. What are some other components also freely given in our conversion? Various Answers. Grace, faith, forgiveness, cleaned up, changed, peace, power, understanding, humility, perspective, strength, wisdom... See Psalm 36:7-9

6. although we take in Christ's Living Water only once for salvation, how do we still rely on Him for nourishment, spiritual hydration, and a sustained life? In His Presence we are refreshed. The world and our own sin drain us and lead us to those false remedies. Through worship, prayer, the Word, and ministry, we are made new while our eyes and hands are washed clean again. See also Psalm 42:1-8