



Small Group Notes

1. **Conversation Starter** *Find a question/s to get the conversation started for your group*

Question: What does it feel like to be an outcast?

Question: Many times, others put labels on us, whether they are welcomed or not.

What kinds of labels do you think the people of this town placed on this woman? Why?

Question: What do people use (instead of God's living water) to satisfy their thirst?

2. **Read the Scripture: John 4:1-26**

Question: John 4:4 Jesus was on his way from Judea back to Galilee. Because of their mutual hatred, Jews usually avoided the direct route through Samaritan territory.

Scripture says, however, that Jesus "needed" to go through Samaria. Why do you think he needed to go? What mission did Jesus have in Samaria?

Question: What was Jesus' physical condition? v. 6-8

Question: John 4:9 What social and religious barriers does Jesus break by his simple request for a drink?

Question: What would motivate a tired, thirsty Jew to spend such careful time conversing with an adulterous outcast female Samaritan?

Question: Compare and contrast the type of water that the woman is thinking of (v11, 15) and the type of water that Jesus is talking about (v13-14).

3. Share with the Group *Choose questions that create openness.*

Question: Have you ever felt there is no way God could possibly use you because of past sins? How does hearing the examples of women in the Bible who God *did* use despite their sin give you hope?

Question: When did you first realize how desperately you needed Living Water? Did you accept His gift, or did you put Him off?

Question: How do you try to quench your thirst in ways other than Jesus?

Question: Have you been told not to associate with people of certain social classes or ethnicities? How did you feel about it? How does the fact that we are all sinners in need of a Savior help to remove our prejudices?

4. Take Action *How will you live this out this week?*

Question: What do we learn about Jesus from this story? How does this change how we will live our lives this week?

Question: Based on this week's sermon and discussion, what changes are you going to make in the coming days, weeks, and years?
