

John 4:7-26
In Spirit And Truth**Warm Up**

What is your favourite everyday drink? Tea, coffee? Hot chocolate? Something else?
What about your favourite social/celebratory drink? Champagne? Beer?, Gin and tonic? Orange juice?
Coke? Do any of these drinks completely satisfy your thirst?

Background and context

This is a significant passage in many ways. Jesus confronts several social barriers in order to present the gospel. Firstly, Jews and Samaritans did not usually mix. There was a long history of hostility between two groups. Many Jews avoided contact with Samaritans. Secondly men and women had social boundaries. Public conversation was uncommon. Jesus' decision to speak to the woman was unusual and showed His willingness to cross social barriers. Water was essential for daily life, people needed to visit the well daily. Jesus used the everyday activity to talk about deeper spiritual needs.

Jesus speaks of true worship, in spirit and truth. This is the heart of the passage. True worship is not dependant on place or time but the state of your heart and your relationship with God.

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

READ John 4:4-26. What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand?

1. Why do you think Jesus chose to speak to the Samaritan woman?
2. What is the difference between ordinary water and the living water Jesus offers?
3. What things do people turn to today to try to satisfy the deepest needs of their hearts?
4. The passage reveals that Jesus knows everything about us. How does that make you feel? Does it affect the way you choose to live?
5. What can we learn about how Jesus treats those who have made mistakes with their lives?
6. What **truth** is Jesus talking about in **v23-24**?
7. What do you think it means to worship in spirit and in truth?
8. **V23** speaks of true worshippers. What does *true worship* look like?
9. How do you know that you **ARE** worshipping in spirit and in truth?

Discipleship and Application

10. Where do you look for satisfaction and peace in your life?
11. Are you allowing Jesus to meet your deepest spiritual needs?

**Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.**

There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.

Fancy a different approach to Bible study?

Try these ways of exploring a passage.

S.O.A.P.

S. Scripture

Read and/or write out the verse or passage.

O. Observe

What do you notice about the passage? Write notes down.

A. Apply

What do I need to do in my life to apply the teaching?

P. Pray

Pray about the reading. Ask God to help you apply it to your life.

Or this way....

What does the passage teach about God or Jesus?

What does it teach about humans? (Therefore me)

How do I apply in my life what I have learned today?

How about this way?

The 6 Ps

Position yourself to hear from God.

Pore over the passage and paraphrase it

Pull out the principles and teachings

Pose questions

Plan obedience

Pray about your study

Just one more...

Apple



Atttributes of God/Jesus

Promises of God

Pinciples to live by

Lessons to be learned

Examples to follow

In this method look for one or more of the five themes. They may not all be there.

If your group is creative or artistic... why not do an evening of Bible journalling. Create a piece of art or poetry based on a bible passage or verse.