

John Chapter 4:-17-26

Sermon – Saved by the Well – Part 2

Background from Part 1 – This Samaritan woman is looking for physical relief by going to a well for water. But when she gets there she meets Jesus. Jesus tells her that:

- God has a gift for her.
- He can give her living water if she asks.

The woman goes through three phases of Christian development.

1. Humble submission. Acknowledging that she is in need.
 - a. She didn't receive his invitation at first; she didn't see how Jesus could help, but she changes her mind and asks him for this free gift of living water.
2. Repenting or changing her mind about how she was looking for relief.
 - a. She changes her mind about how she was about to approach the well.
3. Resurrected hope. She has new hope that Jesus' way is a better way than what she was about to do or used to do.
 - a. She asks for this living water so she never has to come to the well in her current condition anymore. She wants a change.
4. Points out the current sin in her life so she can move forward.
 - a. Tells her about the 5 husbands she has had.

Key points:

- While everyone else might be against you, Jesus still looks for you.
- No matter how many times you have failed before, God still has a gift for you through Jesus.
- The same process and 4 steps shows us how to deal with other people and relationships.
- Indicates the plan God has for us and how He wants to use us.
- No matter what you have done, you are not disqualified from being used by God.

We pick up part two of the message today in John 4:17-19.

¹⁷ The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly." ¹⁹ The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.

Jesus asks her to go and bring her husband to the well. The woman responds that she doesn't have a husband. Jesus' response is she is telling the truth and calls her out that she has had 5 husbands and working on number 6. Rick James might have said the girl is a super-freak.

I wonder why he asked her to get her husband. What was Jesus' objective here? He already knew she had 5 failed attempts at relationships

- Her sin needed to be dealt with before he could use her and progress through the process.
- At this point, I think she reaches Level 4. Just as the Holy Spirit reveals our sins, here Christ has shed light on her sins.
- Notice the compassion, he doesn't condemn her but continues the conversation. Her life problems cannot be ignored in order for her to be used and in right relationship with God, but how Jesus deals with her is an example for us in dealing with others.

John 4:20-24

²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship."

²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.²²You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman quickly changes the subject. She starts talking about church and religion. Why?

I was sitting with some young dudes one day in a restaurant and observed their conversation. They were discussing this girl and that girl...simple guy talk. When they found out I was a preacher, their conversation quickly changed to church stuff.

- When we get around church folk, we sometimes want to hide our true self behind church and religion so we don't look so bad.
- Jesus points out her condition and she changes starts telling him where she goes to church. We go to church over here and you folk say we ought to go to church over there in Jerusalem.

Jesus response is that it is not about what church you go to or your religion. It is not about your denomination.

- Jesus tells her she doesn't really know what she is worshipping. The true plan and spirit of worship and religion comes out of what the Jews do.
- He adds, but time running out for just doing church like this.
- Time is just about over for worshipping God like this. The believers and worshippers are folk who are full of the Spirit and seek the truth, they are the ones who are coming and are here right now and they want to have relational worship and not just go through the motions.

- God is looking for people and a church like this that desire and pursue worshipping Him like this. If we really want to please God in our worship, we have to give Him what He wants.
- If you were not worshipping Him in spirit and truth before, you really were not pleasing God, you must have only been pleasing yourself or your denomination or religion.
- The heart of worship is not necessarily the location of your church but in the motivation of your heart. Where you worship is not as important as how you worship and why you worship!
- Now this is important, because if God is looking for that kind of worshipper, how do I get to be that kind of worshipper? How do we become that kind of church?
 - The level of worshipper God is looking for is I believe at Level 4.
 - What is a Level 4 worshipper and how do I get there?
 - Jesus said salvation is of the Jews. So God must have shown them or given them the plan of salvation and one model He gave them was the 7 Feasts. The first 4 Feasts are the first 4 steps in being a true worshipper.
 - I believe the same 4 steps that the Samaritan woman takes with Jesus are the same steps we have to take in order to worship God correctly.
 - Humble submission and acknowledgement that we need God.
 - Bury our own selfish desires and not focus us but on God.
 - Have a new hope and attitude about approaching God. It is not about religion but about relationship with Him. We are joined together with Christ.
 - Seek to do those things in worship and praise that brings glory to God. This is being led by the Spirit.
- Now this is important, because if Jesus is pointing out that there are true worshippers, then there must be false worshippers. There are still today people who don't know what they are worshipping.
 - There are still false worshippers today.
 - There are still worshippers today who show up at churches and worship in the flesh and not in the Spirit.
 - I don't want to be that kind of worshipper any more. I don't want to waste my time doing worship wrong.
 - I have been to church and gone to church for the wrong reasons before. One time it was because of a girl, more than once it was because I wanted to look good on the outside and stay messed up on the inside. I don't want to be in church or try to worship God the wrong way anymore.
- God is actively looking for and seeking out those folk who are humble and doing worship for real.
- God is a Spirit, so those who are truly worshipping Him correctly must do so in spirit and in truth. If we don't come correct, then we are lying to ourselves and to God because the opposite of the truth is a lie.
 - I don't want to lie to God in my praise. I need to get to Level 4.

John 4:25-26

*²⁵ The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ).
"When He comes, He will tell us all things."*

²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."

She knows about a savior who will come. A Messiah is supposed to be on his way and when he arrives, he will tell us everything about how we are supposed to do this right.

- The Samaritan woman knows about Christ. She has heard about Christ. She knows Christ is coming. She knows when Christ arrives, He will tell us what we need to know. She knows all of this, but she didn't know that Christ was standing in front of her. She didn't know Christ was already here to tell her what she needed to know.
- She know about a savior but she didn't know Jesus. Until you know Jesus you don't know salvation.

Jesus replies, your wait is over, I am He. Not only is He the Christ, but He is here.

Wait a minute, did you see what just happened in the story?

- Jesus reveals something to this woman, He had not revealed to others before.
- As she follows the steps, she gets more revelation.
- She was messed up just a few minus ago but now she is getting hooked up.
- She was a nobody and failure just moments before but now she is standing in front of her hope and victory.
- The last person you would expect to be blessed is the very person Jesus is blessing now.

If He did it for her, He will do this for us.

- Your hope is here.
- Your blessing is here.
- All you need to know is here.
- Your answers are here.
- Your salvation is here.
- Your joy, your peace, your new life is here.
- Your victory is here.
- Because Jesus is the Christ and He is here.
- The Holy Spirit is here.
- If you can only follow the steps, and be humble, you can still find Him at your well. Just get there. Just get to that place for humility and need. When you get there....He'll be there.
- When you find him there, you will also find him here.....in your heart.

Delivered June 2019