

## AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP – BIBLE STUDY

### Study Series: That you May Believe: A Journey Through The Gospel of John

Part 7: Living Water: Worship in spirit and truth; harvest

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Text: John 4: 1-42

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#### Introduction

John 4:1–42 records Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. In this story **Jesus crosses cultural barriers**, reveals Himself as the source of **Living Water**, teaches about **true worship** and shows His disciples the urgency of the **spiritual harvest**. This story highlights God's love, Jesus's mission and the transformative power of encountering Him. This passage teaches us about salvation, transformation, and our role in sharing the gospel.

**Reflection Question:** Where in your life do you see Jesus reaching beyond barriers—either in your life or through you to others?

#### Key Messages:

##### 1. Jesus Breaks Barriers to Reach the Lost (John 4:4–9)

Jesus intentionally travels through Samaria and begins a conversation with a Samaritan woman, which shocked people of that time.

John 4:7 (CSB): *“A woman of Samaria came to draw water. ‘Give me a drink,’ Jesus said to her.”*

**Jesus initiated the conversation with a woman who was likely marginalized in her community.**

**Q:** What barriers did Jesus break in speaking with the Samaritan woman? Are people still been marginalized today? How? **Jesus' action demonstrates that God actively seeks people who feel rejected, forgotten, or unworthy.**

In this meeting with the Samaritan woman at the well John showed us, *Jesus has something to say to those despised by the religious establishment.*

Galatians 3:28 – *There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.* (NIV).

Acts 10:34–35 – *Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.”* (NIV)

##### 2. Jesus Offers Living Water (John 4:10–14)

John 4:13–14 (CSB): *“Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. But **whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again.**”*

Jesus contrasts **physical water** with the **Living Water** He provides.

**Living Water** represents salvation, the **Holy Spirit**, and **eternal life** through **Christ**.

**Living water is the spiritual water that quenches spiritual thirst and gives life.**

Isaiah 55:1 – *Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.* (NIV).

John 7:37–38 – *On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.* (NIV); Revelation 22:17.

In the Old Testament living water is sometimes associated with Jehovah. He is called ‘the fountain of living waters’ (Jeremiah 2:13, 17:13).

**Q:** What does Living Water mean in your personal spiritual life?

**Q:** What are some things people pursue today that cannot truly satisfy spiritual thirst?

##### 3. Jesus Reveals the Condition of the Heart (John 4:15–19)

John 4:18: *“You have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband.”*

Jesus did not expose her life to shame her, but to bring truth and healing.

Spiritual renewal often begins when we allow God to confront areas of our lives that need change.

### **True spiritual change begins with honesty before God.**

Romans 5:8 – *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* (NIV)

Q: What is the difference between religious activity and true worship?

#### **4. True Worship is Worship in Spirit and Truth** (John 4:21–24)

What is true worship? What did Jesus mean by this?

John 4:23–24 (CSB): *“The true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth.”*

The Samaritan woman asked about the correct place of worship. Jesus responded that true worship is not centered on location but on relationship with God.

True Worship is a **sincere heart that worships God through the Spirit** and according to **truth**.

**True worship** involves sincerity of heart, alignment with God’s Word, and a life devoted to honoring Him.

Matthew 15:8 – *“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.”* (NIV).

*Philippians 3:3 – For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh.* (NIV); John 17:17 – *Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.* (NIV)

**Reflection Question:** What does worshipping God “in spirit and truth” look like in your daily life beyond church services?

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#### **5. Jesus Reveals Himself as the Messiah** (John 4:25–26)

Jesus clearly declares His identity as the Messiah. **Encountering Jesus personally leads to**

**Increased faith and spiritual transformation.** *Can you share your Jesus’ encounter?*

Matthew 16:16 – *Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”* (NIV).

Acts 4:12 – *Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.* (NIV).

Q: What does Jesus mean when He says the fields are ready for harvest?

#### **6. Transformation Leads to Evangelism** (John 4:28–30, 39–42)

After encountering Jesus, the woman immediately shares her testimony with her community.

Her story leads many people to believe in Christ.

Psalm 107:2 – *Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe.* (NIV)

Q: How did the Samaritan woman demonstrate the power of personal testimony?

#### **7. The Harvest is Ready** (John 4:35–38)

Believers are called to participate in God’s harvest by sharing the message of salvation.

Matthew 9:37–38 – *Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.* (NIV); 1 Corinthians 3:6

Q: Who in your life might be spiritually thirsty right now?

### **Practical Life Lessons**

1. **Jesus meets us where we are** – Isaiah 55:6

**Reflection Question:** When was a time you experienced God meeting you in a difficult or unexpected place?

2. **Only Jesus satisfies the soul** – John 6:35

**Reflection Question:** How can you intentionally seek Jesus daily instead of relying on temporary solutions?

3. **Worship is a lifestyle** – Romans 12:1

**Reflection Question:** What habits can help you live a life of worship throughout the week? \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Your testimony has power** – Revelation 12:11