



LET'S TALK ABOUT JESUS

SERMON NOTES AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

John 4:3-29

⁴ Now he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

¹¹ "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?" ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

¹³ Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

¹⁷ "I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

¹⁹ "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

²¹ "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

²⁵ The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶ Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

²⁷ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

²⁸ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?"

Outline

Introduction

Fractals, Faith, and our Future

Question: How do we take the message of Jesus seriously?

Let's lose our Religion

1. The Problem with MTD

- **Moralism**
- **Therapeutic**
- **Deism**

2. The Problem with Focusing on the Golden Rule

See the Message

What we see...

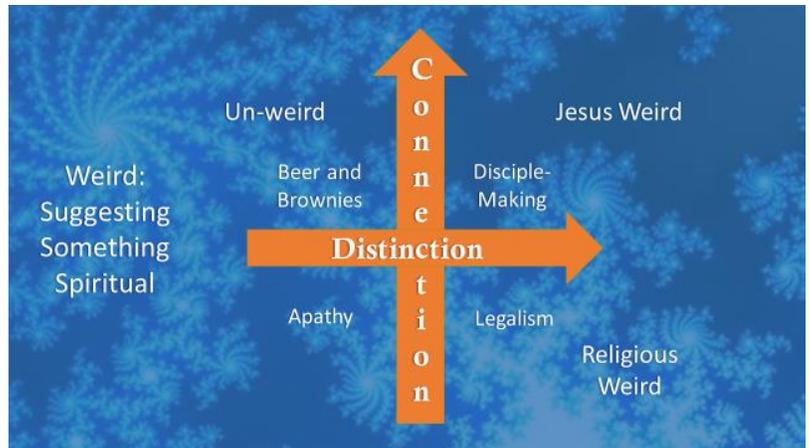
Passion to Connect with Broken People

Passion to Lead Broken People into God's Truth

Follow Jesus

Stand out from the Crowd

Warning: It might seem a little weird



Leave Your Jar

Discussion Questions

Sharing Life Together

1. What is your earliest memory of Jesus?
2. Who was the first person in your life that took the message of Jesus seriously?

Reflecting on the Message Together

1. Why do you think younger people are drawn to Christian communities who take the message of Jesus seriously?
2. What do you think are signs to people outside the church that show we are taking the message of Jesus seriously?

3. Many people in America, who do not identify as Christian, identify in the category of Moralistic, Therapeutic, Deism (MTD). They also believe that Christianity is a gathering of people who believe in MTD.
 - a. What are positive elements of MTD that we can embrace?
 - b. What are deficiencies of MTD?
 - c. How is following Jesus better and greater than MTD?
4. How is following Jesus more than just living by the Golden Rule?
5. How are Christians supposed to “Stand out from the Crowd”?
6. Discuss the graph of “high connection” and “high distinction”.
 - a. What comes most natural to you when engaging with non-Christians: high connection or high distinction?
 - b. What do you think is most challenging in standing out like Jesus, (holding a commitment to high connection and high distinction)?

Meditating on the Scriptures

7. Why was it easy for the Samaritan woman at the well to go back and tell her whole community about Jesus?
8. What stood out to you about the Jesus interaction with Samaritan woman?
9. How did Jesus demonstrate his commitment to connect with broken people in this story?
10. How did Jesus demonstrate his commitment to lead broken people into the truth of God in his encounter with the Samaritan woman?
11. Is there a “jar” in your life that is weighing you down that Jesus wants to replace with His “living water”? If so, what is it?
12. As you reflect on Jesus with the Samaritan woman and the message, how do you think Jesus was speaking into your life?