

March 13, 2023

First Encounter with Jesus

[John 4:16-30](#)

The woman said, "I know that Messiah (called Christ) is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

The story of the Woman at the Well is one of my very favorites in the whole of the Bible. This Samaritan woman is the first record we have of Jesus revealing who He is to someone. As the story continues, we find that she is also the first Evangelist mentioned in the Bible. She told her story to the whole town.

Have you had a personal encounter with Jesus? Has He revealed Himself to you? Are you looking and waiting for Jesus? If not, He is readily available to you. All you must do is confess that you are a sinner and ask God for forgiveness. You see, Jesus has already paid the price for your sins when He went to the cross.

Jesus was waiting for the Samaritan woman to come to the well, just as he is waiting for you to come to Him. As with the Samaritan woman, he already knows all about you and is ready to forgive you of all your past and future sins when you accept Him as your Savior.

If you already have had an encounter with Jesus, are you as excited as the Samaritan woman to rush to tell others of your encounter. She was in such a hurry she left behind her water jar. She invited everyone in the town to **"Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?"**

You have a story to tell those who do not yet know Jesus. It is your story -- warts and all -- about how no matter how bad a person thinks they are Jesus is ready to forgive them and welcome them into His eternal Kingdom.

Finally, do not be concerned about what other people think of the person to whom you are witnessing. The Disciples did not like the fact that Jesus was talking to a hated Samaritan, let alone an unaccompanied woman. Unfortunately, in our congregations we have persons who think people not like them are Samaritans. When God wants you to tell your story to someone, tell it and do not let others deter you.

***Prayer:** Father, we pray for those who have yet to meet you personally and accept you as Lord and Savior of their lives. We pray for you to direct us to one of these people so we can share our story of how we were prior to encountering You and what you have done for us since. Thank you, Jesus, for dying on the cross for my sins and also for the sins of all. Thank you for making it possible for me to live with You forever. These things I ask in Your precious name. Amen.*

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