



# FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

## Week of January 30, 2022: John 4:1-42

### The Story 👉👉👉

When the kids hear the ALL CAPS words in the story they should add the following sound effects:

WATER: gurgle, gurgle

DRINK: ahh

SAMARITAN: a what?!

JESUS: Yes!

### Memory Verse

**John 4:14:** "...but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty."

### Bedtime Blessing:

Tonite we rest, tomorrow we play  
Sleeping until a brand new day  
God is with you from above  
Rest in joy, and peace and love

### Craft Corner

Water Jars (age 3-5)

[You will need: air drying clay or play dough, pictures of water jugs used in Biblical times, smoothing tools, paper plates.] Give the children some of the clay and let them model it into a water jug, placing it on the paper plate to dry. Talk with the children about the story and discuss together the importance of

### The Story: Can You See God?

JESUS was on a journey and he passed through a town called Sychar. In that town there was a well called Jacob's well that Jacob had given as a present to his son, Joseph, the one who was also given the multi-coloured coat! The well was the place where everyone came to get WATER, and to chat, and to socialize and to tell some stories. So JESUS sat down at the well, because he was really tired after his long journey.

While he was sitting there a woman came to the well to fetch WATER for her home. It was in the middle of the day, and it was very hot, so JESUS asked the woman if she would give him a DRINK of WATER. However, the woman was surprised that Jesus should ask her for a DRINK. Because she was a SAMARITAN Woman and he was a Jewish man and the SAMARITANS and the Jews did not get [along] very well with one another, they were far from best friends, more like enemies!



JESUS said to her: "You don't know what God gives. And you don't know who asked you for a DRINK. If you knew, you would have asked me, and I would have given you living WATER." "Sir, what do you mean by living WATER? The well is very deep and you have nothing to draw the WATER from the well. Do you think you are better than Jacob our Father in the faith? After all the well was his gift to the SAMARITAN

water for us. Discuss how they feel when they are thirsty. Encourage them to think about why Jesus called the water he could give living water and also the change in the woman when she met Jesus. Talk about the way we can change when we know about Jesus too.

## Activity

The In Crowd (age 6-12)

You will need: images of youngsters in a gang, a royal family, children in uniform from the same school, sports fans at a sporting event, homeless people, and other images of crowds with similarities to one another. Go through each of the images and ask the children what they see in the pictures. Any similarities, any differences, good points, bad points or other? Is there a theme running through all the pictures? They all belong to an 'in' crowd.

**Questions to Ponder:** Have the children ever ignored or avoided other people because of the way they look, where they live, what the person has been doing? Why did they do that? Have they been informed by adults to avoid certain people? Have you ever wanted to go and help someone but then changed your mind because of what a parent/friend would say or do?

people, and his sons and cattle drank from it as well"

Then JESUS answered the woman, "Every person who DRINKS this WATER will be thirsty again. But whoever DRINKS the WATER I give will never be thirsty again. The WATER I give will become a spring of WATER flowing inside him. It will give him eternal life."

The SAMARITAN woman thought she would love some of this life-giving WATER, and so she pleaded for JESUS to give it to her so she would never be thirsty again. JESUS then said to the woman, "Why don't you go and fetch your husband and bring him here to meet me?" The woman said to him, "I am not married, I have no husband."

JESUS looked at her again and said; "I know you don't have a husband now, but I know you have had five husbands and that you now have a partner living with you. The woman was amazed that JESUS knew this and said: "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain. But you Jews say that Jerusalem is the place where people must worship."

JESUS said, "The time is coming when the place where we worship will not matter. True worship is when we praise God in Spirit and Truth, and that time is now here. Put aside the labels of Jews and SAMARITANS, Catholic or Protestants. The woman said, "I believe that the Messiah is coming. He will explain everything to us" Then JESUS said, "I am he, the one who is talking to you now..."

The disciples of JESUS arrived back from town and they were surprised that JESUS was talking to a SAMARITAN woman, but none of them were brave enough to ask JESUS what he was doing.

Just then, the woman left her WATER jar beside JESUS and went back to town. She said to the people, "A man told me everything I have ever done. Come see him. Maybe he is the Christ!" So the people left the town and went to see JESUS. Many of the SAMARITANS now believed in JESUS, because of what the woman had told them had happened to her, and the SAMARITANS begged JESUS to stay and tell them more about God. The townsfolk who heard JESUS speak said to the woman, "First we believed in JESUS because of what you told us. But now we believe because we heard him ourselves. We know that this man really is the Savior of the world."