

If true worshipers worship in spirit and in truth, what are the characteristics of false worship?

How does one worship in spirit and in truth with intentionality?

Are you a true worshiper?

The Samaritans were seemingly an “unlikely” choice for the gospel message, yet they readily believed. Who are the “Samaritans” in your life?

Pray that God will give you eyes to see someone you may have otherwise overlooked, and grant you the courage and opportunity to share your faith.

### Prayer Response

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If you are not currently in a Small Group, we encourage you to discuss your reflection questions with a family member or a close friend. Previous lessons are available on-line at [www.sgc.org/John.asp](http://www.sgc.org/John.asp)

If you would like to be part of a Small Group, please contact Dori Sear at [dsear@sgc.org](mailto:dsear@sgc.org)



# John 4:1-42

**Lesson 6**  
For November 2, 2008

Dr. Jerry Nelson

## The Samaritan Woman

1. Verses 1-3 Given the Roman/Jewish political climate of Jesus' day, speculate on why he might have left Judea when the Pharisees took special note of him.
2. Look at a map of Israel/Palestine and see why Jesus would have had to pass through Samaria on his way from the region of Judea to the region of Galilee. Thinking of God's providence, why else might he have “had” to go through Samaria?
3. Given John's purpose in writing the Gospel (20:30-31), why might John be giving so many details in verses 4-6?
4. What are the two reasons the Samaritan woman was likely surprised at Jesus' request for a drink? (In 4:7-9, John specifically mentions one and the woman implies the other. See also 4:27.)
5. Considering John 1:12; 3:16; 20:31, what/who is “the gift of God” in verse 10? What does Jesus say the woman's question of verse 9 should have been?

6. Given the “second-class citizenship” with which the Jews treated the Samaritans, speculate on the woman’s attitude with her remarks in verses 11-12.
  
7. In verses 13-14 Jesus doesn’t debate social class with the woman, instead what does he promise?
  
8. To what is Jesus referring when he promises “water” (v14)?
  
9. Is the woman’s attitude one of ignorance or obstinacy in verse 15?
  
10. Whatever the woman’s attitude in verse 15 how does Jesus handle it in verse 16?
  
11. In verses 16-19 how does Jesus prove his uniqueness to the woman?
  
12. Earlier (verses 9 and 12) the woman seems to want to argue “social class.” Now in verse 20 it seems she wants to argue the superiority of her religion. Jesus engages her in verse 22 but how does Jesus take the discussion to a higher level in verses 21 and 23?
  
13. In light of John 1:12 and 3:14-15 what might the worship of God in “spirit and truth” entail?

14. In verses 25-26 who does Jesus openly declare himself to be?
  
15. Verse 29: What is the woman’s testimony and speculation?
  
16. How do verses 31-38 contribute to the story of verses 30 and 39?
  
17. To what harvest is Jesus calling his disciples in these verses? What field is “ripe?”
  
18. From verses 39-42, describe the Samaritan peoples’ testimony.
  
19. In light of John’s purpose (20:31), why might John include this testimony?

### **Personal Reflection**

Jesus exposed the woman’s sin, not through condemnation, but through truth (facts). How do you respond when God exposes the truth of your sin?

What is God accomplishing in this redeeming work?