

BEFORE THE SESSION:

- Look over the suggested questions to the right. Ask God to guide you to the ones that will work best for your group.
- Be prepared to get the discussion going in your group if they're not feeling it today.
- Don't feel like you have to know all there is to know about scripture. Use this week's study notes to prepare yourself. But, if something arises that you can't answer, tell your group, "That's a great question. I'll research that and get back with you." Then, email eddie.mosley@lifepointchurch.org for help.

THIS WEEK'S BIG IDEA

We are on this planet to point people to a Christ-centered life.

121 ideas:

- walk your neighborhood and pray for homes of people you do not know.
- walk your neighborhood and talk to people who are out
- pray daily from now through Easter for your 3 - 4 invitees, pray by name
- watch for God at work at ball practice, the gym, your work-place, etc (wherever you do life)

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK:

As we continue 1 Kings, read about the division of Israel into two kingdoms and the miracles performed by the prophet Elijah.

AS YOU READ...

...Think about who in your life needs to hear about the things you're reading.

CONNECT**(10 min.)**

Choose one or both of the following questions to begin your time together as a group.

1. **When you were growing up, who were the people you were told to avoid?**
2. **Think about your own spiritual journey, who is the main person who invested in you?**

EXPLORE**(40 min.)**

Say something like, "Today we will discuss how Jesus influenced the Samaritan woman at the well." Then guide your group through these questions.

3. **If you were in worship this week, what statement or experience stood out to you? What stood out during last week's reading?**

(Leader: Take some time to discuss any questions that may have arisen as your members read through this week's assigned reading.)

4. **Read John 4:7-30. Retell this story in your own words.**
5. **How would you describe the Samaritan woman's response for most of her conversation with Jesus? Why do you think this woman changed the conversation to focus on a religious controversy in verse 20?**
6. **What most influenced the woman to consider that the man she was talking to was the Messiah?**
7. **Jesus offered this woman "living water" for what she was thirsting for in life. What do you think she really wanted?**
8. **Jesus overcame social and cultural differences to reach this woman. How have you overcome those same barriers?**
9. **What are you thirsting for most in life? What do you need to do to relieve your spiritual thirst?**

TRANSFORM**(10 min.)**

Wrap up your time by recalling a few things from your meeting that stood out to you. Then, ask the following question and pray together.

10. **What did you learn about God from our discussion? About people? What will you do with what you learned?**

This Week's Study Notes:

Scripture Notes

John 4:7

Noontime, the heat of the day, was not the normal time women would perform this chore. She was likely avoiding conversation with other women; perhaps she received their criticism.

John 4:10

This was a common phrase referring to water that flowed from a river or spring. Water like this was better than the standing water of a well or pond.

John 4:17-18

While clearly revealing His knowledge of her situation, Jesus commends her truthfulness. Women in this time could be divorced for trivial reasons, but had no right of divorce themselves. It is possible that she had been abandoned by one or more of her husbands and was a mistress to the man she was with now. She was considered immoral.

John 4:19

Jesus' knowledge of her life led her to see Him as a prophet who must be taken seriously. The Samaritans did not acknowledge the Jewish prophets and writings but held only to the five books of Moses.

Leader Tips

AS YOU READ THIS WEEK...

- Think about and pray for each member of your small group.
- Think through the following questions:
 1. Whom does God bring to mind as I read these verses? Why?
 2. What needs to change in my own life as a result of what I'm reading?
 3. Whom do I need to tell about these verses?

FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY WE RECOMMEND...

- Bible Commentary: Bible.org
- Bible Commentary: DesiringGod.org
- Pronouncing Biblical Words: Netministries.org/Bbasics/bwords.htm

* Scripture Notes adapted from and used by permission of Serendipity House Publishing, 1 LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, Tennessee

