

CONNECTING OUR STORIES

How to share your testimony from John 4

JOHN 4:1-30; 39-42

The Voice Translation

John 4 - (Voice)

¹ The picture was becoming clear to the Pharisees that Jesus had gained a following much larger than that of John the Baptist, the wandering prophet. Now He could see that the Pharisees were beginning to plot against Him. ² This was because His disciples were busy ritually cleansing many new disciples through baptism, ³ He chose to leave Judea where most Pharisees lived and return to a safer location in Galilee. ⁴ This was a trip that would take them through Samaria.

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For Jews in Israel, Samaria is a place to be avoided. Before Solomon's death 1,000 years earlier, the regions of Samaria and Judea were part of a united Israel. After the rebellion that divided the kingdom, Samaria became a hotbed of idol worship. The northern kings made alliances that corrupted the people by introducing foreign customs and strange gods. They even had the nerve to build a temple to the True God on Mt. Gerizim to rival the one in Jerusalem. By the time the twelve are traveling with Jesus, it has long been evident that the Samaritans have lost their way. By marrying outsiders, they have polluted the land. Israel's Jews consider them to be half-breeds—mongrels—and the Jews know to watch out for them or else be bitten by temptation.

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5-8 In a small Samaritan town known as Sychar, Jesus and His entourage stopped to rest at the historic well that Jacob gave his son Joseph. It was about noon when Jesus found a spot to sit close to the well while the disciples ventured off to find provisions. From His vantage, He watched as a Samaritan woman approached to draw some water. Unexpectedly He spoke to her.
Jesus: Would you draw water, and give Me a drink?

Woman: ⁹ I cannot believe that You, a Jew, would associate with me, a Samaritan woman; much less ask me to give You a drink.
Jews, you see, have no dealings with Samaritans.

Jesus: ¹⁰ You don't know the gift of God or who is asking you for a drink of this water from Jacob's well. Because if you did, you would have asked Him for something greater: and He would

*Also, a man never approaches a woman like this
in public.*

*Jesus is breaking accepted social barriers with
this confrontation.*

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Woman: ¹¹ Sir, You sit by this deep well a thirsty man without a bucket in sight. Where does this living water come from? ¹² Are You claiming superiority to our father Jacob who labored long and hard to dig and maintain this well so that he could share clean water with his sons, grandchildren, and cattle?

Jesus: ¹³ Drink this water, and your thirst is quenched only for a moment. You must return to this well again and again. ¹⁴ I offer water that will become a wellspring within you that gives life throughout eternity. You will never be thirsty again.

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Jesus: ¹⁶ Then bring your husband to Me.

Woman: ¹⁷⁻¹⁸ I do not have a husband.

Jesus: Technically you are telling the truth. But you have had five husbands and are currently living with a man you are not married to.

Woman: ¹⁹ Sir, it is obvious to me that You are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped here on this mountain, but Your people say that Jerusalem is the only place for all to worship. Which is it?

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Jesus: ²⁶ The Anointed is speaking to you. I am the One you have been looking for.

²⁷ The disciples returned to Him and gathered around Him in amazement that He would openly break their customs by speaking to this woman, but none of them would ask Him what He was looking for or why He was speaking with her. ²⁸ The woman went back to the town, leaving her water pot behind. She stopped men and women on the streets and told them about what had happened.

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³⁰ A crowd came out of the city and approached Jesus. ³¹ During all of this, the disciples were urging Jesus to eat the food they gathered.



³⁹ Meanwhile, because one woman shared with her neighbors how Jesus exposed her past and present, the village of Sychar was transformed—many Samaritans heard and believed. ⁴⁰ The Samaritans approached Jesus and repeatedly invited Him to stay with them, so He lingered there for two days on their account.

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WHAT MAKES A
TESTIMONY SO SPECIAL?

HOW DO WE SHARE
OUR TESTIMONY?

Main Point:

CONNECT YOUR STORY
IN CHRIST!

IS THIS REALLY ABOUT
BEING AND BELONGING?

THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Learning from Her Story

WHAT WAS THE WOMAN'S
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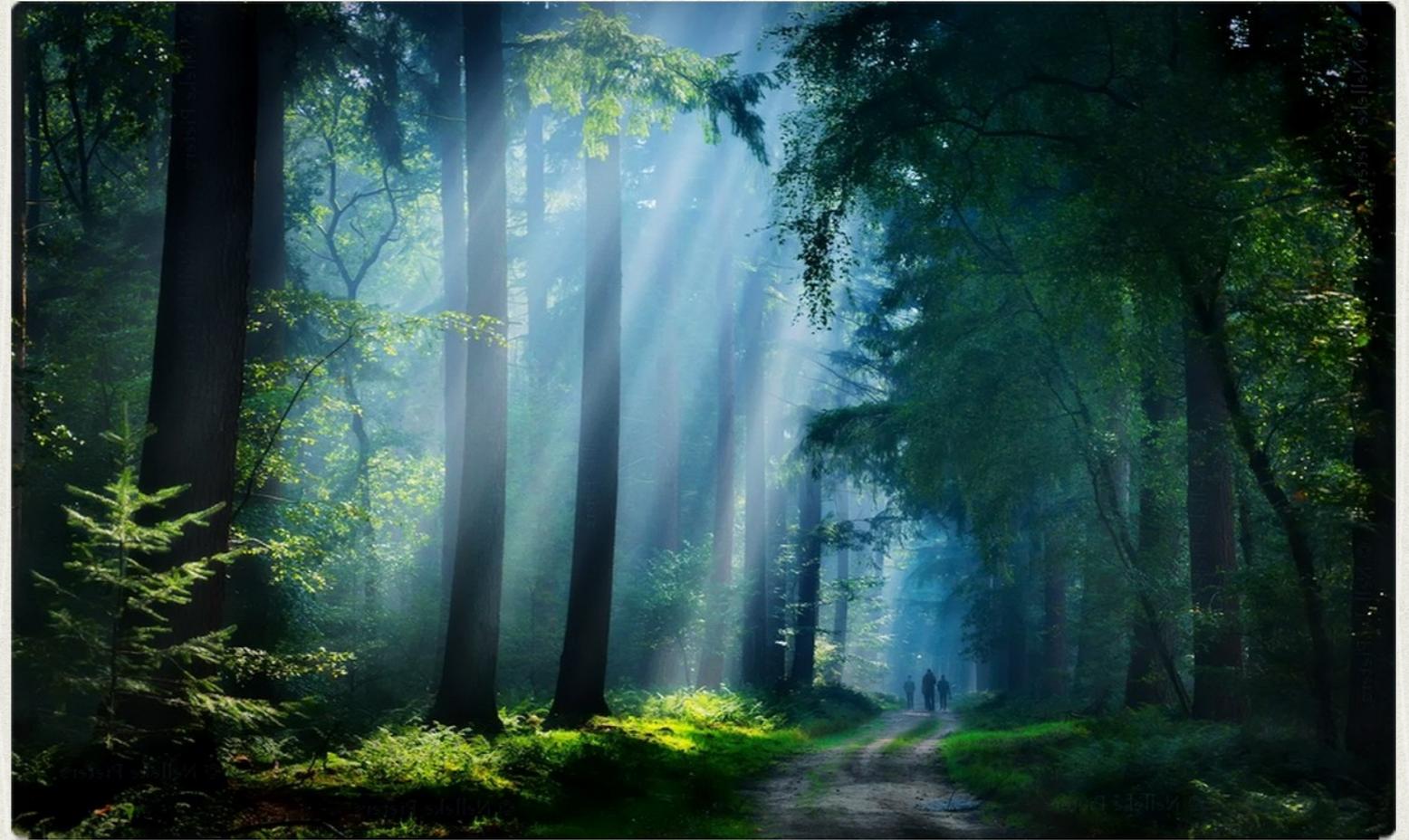
1. **What are your old wells?**
2. **Surrender your wells!**
3. **Connect to Christ as your living water.**



CONNECT YOUR STORY IN CHRIST!

1. Share about your old wells:
life questions and
problems before Christ.
2. Show how Christ became
your living water: how he
answered you.
3. Suggest for them to come
and see who Jesus is: invite
them to listen to Jesus.





CONNECT YOUR STORY IN CHRIST!

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