



## **October 18: Come and See: The Samaritan Woman's Witness**

Have you ever had a conversation that helped you feel seen or gave you renewed hope? Sometimes an ordinary encounter opens something within us and leaves us with a story worth sharing.

In John 4, a Samaritan woman comes to a well to draw water and meets Jesus. He asks her for a drink. She recognizes the boundary between them: he is a Jewish man, and she is a Samaritan woman. Their communities have a history of religious disagreement and separation. Yet Jesus opens a conversation and takes her questions seriously.

He offers her living water, a gift that becomes a spring within her, giving eternal life. At first, she thinks about the practical relief of no longer needing to return to the well. We can understand that longing. Our daily responsibilities can leave us tired, and our hearts thirst for peace, belonging, and hope.

Jesus offers life that reaches into those deeper places. His gift comes before she fully understands who he is. That is how grace meets us: God draws near while we are still questioning and learning.

When Jesus speaks about her relationships, we must be careful with her story. The passage does not explain why she has had five husbands. We do not know all she has endured. What we do see is that Jesus knows her history and continues the conversation. She has a place in his presence.

So do we. We can bring our grief, complicated relationships, disappointments, and hopes to Christ. We are known and invited to receive his grace.

The woman asks about worship and speaks of the coming Messiah. Jesus reveals himself to her. Then she leaves her water jar, returns to the city, and invites others to come and see. She still has questions, but she already has something to share.

Her witness reminds us to pay attention to voices we might overlook. At Grace, faith grows as we listen across generations, welcome honest questions, and recognize the gifts people bring through teaching, quilting, sharing meals, and caring for neighbors.

Even if you cannot gather with us in person, you belong to this community. Christ's promise reaches you wherever you are. May his living water sustain you, and may you find opportunities to share the hope you have received.

Come and see. Come with your questions. Come with your story. Christ meets you with grace. Amen!