

**Bible Verse:** John 4:42b “we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.”

Last week, our story was about Nicodemus, a Pharisee in Jerusalem, who meets secretly with Jesus. Nicodemus listens to Jesus and learns from Him, but other Pharisees are still jealous of how many new followers Jesus and his disciples are baptizing every day.

So Jesus leaves Jerusalem and starts to walk north from Jerusalem in Judea through the land of Samaria and home to Galilee. Now Samaria is a very dry land, and Samaritans gather where there is a well to get water. Travelers like Jesus would also stop at a well to rest and drink.

Today’s story happens at a water well in Samaria. The Gospel of John tells us that Jesus comes to the well at about noon. His disciples go off to buy food, while Jesus waits there. A Samaritan woman comes to fill her water jug. She sees a strange Jewish man at the well. The woman expects to just get her water and leave quickly. Usually, men don’t speak to women they don’t know, and Jews don’t speak to Samaritans anyway. But this unusual Jewish man does speak to her. He actually asks her to help him get water!

The woman (we now believe that her name was Photini) has a difficult life. She is even a bit of an outcast. No one is helping HER! She asks Jesus why he thinks SHE would help HIM? Jesus surprises her with his answer. Jesus tells Photini that He knows all about her. That He is a gift from God sent to help her find a different kind of water. Jesus tells her He brings the living water of eternal life with God. Jesus predicts that one day Samaritans and Jews will worship together in the living water of the Holy Spirit.

The woman tells Jesus that she is expecting a Messiah to come and explain everything. Jesus announces that he IS the messiah. Photini believes him.

Then the disciples come back with food and the woman runs off to bring everyone she knows to the well to meet Jesus. They convince Jesus to stay for two more days to teach them about the living water, the Holy Spirit, and the Son of God.

They say, “Now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.”

**Wonder Question:** Can you think of someone you know at school or your neighborhood who is not well liked. How might you welcome that person and help him/her to feel good about themselves?

Find The Well  
1-gray 2-brown 3-blue 4-yellow 5-orange 6-green

