



## Northland Christian Church Group Discussion Guide For the Week of January 23, 2022

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*Use the questions below as a springboard for discussion. You do not have to answer every question. Pick the ones you think will be helpful. These are intended to help spark discussion. Remember, Ultimately we want God's answers, not man's opinions. Always land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace. Give time for growth. Don't force it. Growth takes time, love, good questions, & support.*

### Connect

- If you were given a time machine and access to see any concert in the whole history of the world, who would you go see?
- Think about a monumental event in your life— a wedding, deciding where to attend school, buying a house, or moving out of state. What or who helped you make that decision?

### The Context

Last week we found out that Jesus had a divine appointment with a Samaritan woman who needed the living water that only He could offer. Jesus chose to talk with a Samaritan woman who was a social and moral outcast in her community because her soul could only be satisfied by what Jesus had to offer because He is the Messiah. We find out in today's passage that the Samaritan woman got so excited that she left her water jar and rushed back to town to tell everyone about Jesus. As a result, we see that the witness of even one person, regardless of who they are or what they have done, can be used by God to turn people to Jesus. This Samaritan woman didn't know much, but she knew enough to invite people to come and meet Jesus. As a result, many Samaritans did come to Jesus. As they came, the Samaritans realized that Jesus indeed is the Savior of the world.

### Engage the Bible

Read the passage and share Surprises, Takeaways, and Observations from:

#### **John 4:27-42** NIV

"Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" 28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" 30 They came out of the town and made their way toward him. 31 Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." 32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." 33 Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" 34 "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. 35 Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. 36 Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. 37 Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. 38 I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." 39 Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. 41 And because of his words many more became believers. 42 They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

## Discuss

1. How has the testimony of someone else's faith journey made a difference in your life?
2. What do you think it was about Jesus that compelled this woman to go to her town and share Jesus with those that may not have accepted or respected her because of her past?
3. What was it about Jesus that caught your attention and brought you to pursue Him?
4. What was the woman's message to the people she rushed into town to tell about Jesus?
5. What are some excuses that Satan puts in our mind to keep you from sharing your testimony? Could any of your excuses been used by this Samaritan woman? What are some ways that we can combat Satan's attacks, so that we share the Gospel when we have the opportunity?
6. How have you seen God use your testimony to touch the life of someone else? How might He want to use your story? What questions do you have about sharing your story with others?
7. What would you say to someone who feels unworthy or afraid to share their testimony?
8. When we engage people in conversation about Jesus, what are our biggest fears? What can we learn from this story to help us overcome our fears?
9. What does Jesus say about the harvest in verses 35-38? How does this relate to our lives today? (You might also read [Matthew 28:18-20](#)) Where has the Lord planted you to reap, sow, and share?
10. How would you describe your life before meeting Jesus? How did you come to know and follow Jesus? How has your life changed since following Jesus?
11. What emotions do you experience at the thought of telling others about Jesus? Why do you think that is?
12. Who are three people in your life that don't know Jesus? Ask God to give you opportunities and confidence to share your faith with those three people in the coming days. Make a list of these names as a group and commit to praying for these daily.

## Challenge

Make a commitment to be bold and invite one person, this week, to hear about and meet Jesus. It may be a simple invitation to come to church, attend your small group, or join with you in reading the Gospel of John. It may be as simple as sharing your answers to question 10 above. Pray that God would lead you and guide you as you act upon your desire to share the love of Jesus with others.

## End Your Group Time in Prayer