

# 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Lesson Plan – Woman at the Well

## March 15, 2020

- 10:00 – 10:15: **Gather**
  - *Opening Conversation:*
    - Hand out leaflets and pencils. Look at the pictures on the front page, then read the *Life Question* and *Lesson Focus*.
    - “It’s obvious that Jesus is not water, even living water. And when we look at the Life Question – What do you thirst for in life? – we are not talking only about water. How is water being used in these examples?” (a metaphor or figure of speech)
    - “How does a metaphor work?” (it suggests that one thing is something else, so that we can understand something about the first thing.)
    - “In the Life Question, we understand that thirst is a metaphor for the things that we need and desire in life. This includes water, of course. And Jesus as living water is a metaphor that suggests that Jesus supplies what we need, physically and spiritually.”
    - Ask a volunteer to read the facts about water in *Water Essentials* on leaflet p. 2. Share thoughts and discuss what they read.
  - *Opening Prayer* – in Leader Guide
- 10:15 – 10:35: **Open the Bible**
  - *Woman at the Well Story*
    - In the room, there is a bucket filled with water and rags in case of spills. Put it on the floor near the door.
    - Ask the kids if they know where the book of John is, then ask them to turn to John 4:5-12 (p. 1175-76), the story of Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at the well.
    - Go around the room and take turns reading verses. As each verse is read, the reader goes up to the bucket of water and moves it several feet, in any direction.
    - “When Jesus meets the woman at the well, it’s an incredible moment. He is talking to a Samaritan woman. There are two things

wrong with this in Jesus' time. Jews did not like Samaritans and were not supposed to have anything to do with them. And men were not supposed to talk to women. Once again, we find Jesus reaching out to those who were outcasts."

- "Jesus shocks the woman by knowing things about her life that she did not expect a stranger to know. Do you think she was thirsty when she went to the well?" (*yes*)
- "So how does Jesus, comparing himself to water, make a big impact on her?" (*It makes her realize that she has a thirst for something deeper*)
- "Jesus decides to stay in the Samaritan town for two days. What does that tell us about him and his ministry?" (*He came for everyone*)
- Read and discuss *Did You Know?* on leaflet p. 2.
- Read about another woman at a well in *Look It Up!* on leaflet p. 3. Ask the kids to skim through Genesis 24 to get an idea of what happened when Rebekah went to the well. (*she found her husband*)

○ *Water Facts and Figures*

- Ask kids to read *Water Facts and Figures* on leaflet p. 2. Invite them to share other facts they know about water.
- "When Jesus speaks about himself as water, it's easy to look at water as a common element. Were you surprised to see how scarce water really is? Why or why not?"
- "How does it feel to know that the same water from Jesus' time is part of our water system today? Knowing that Jesus compared himself to water, how does that make you feel about protecting this resource?"

● **10:35 – 10:50: Activate Faith and Send**

○ *Who Were the Samaritans?*

- Read and complete on leaflet p. 3.
- "History indicates that the bad feelings between the Jews and the Samaritans went back almost 1000 years before Jesus spoke to the woman at the well. What are some other groups that you've heard about that have tense relationships in the world?"

- “Do you think it’s possible that Jesus might talk to someone who belongs to a group that some Christians would consider enemies today? Why do you think Jesus shows compassion to the Samaritan woman?”
- *World Water Shortage*
  - Read and complete on leaflet p. 3.
  - Brainstorm ideas and thoughts about world water shortage.
  - “Are there actions we could take to ensure a better future in terms of the water supply?” (*Don’t waste water, contribute money and resources to organizations that work toward clean water*)
  - “How do you think being better stewards of the world’s resources brings us closer to God?”
- *Water Miracles* – complete the exercise as a group if time permits. The answer key is in the Leader Guide.
- *Closing Conversation* – time permitting (see Leader Guide)
- 10:50 – 11:00: **Communion** (approx.). Please lead the kids back to the dining room for music.
- 11:00 – 11:10: Music in the Dining Room