

John 4:1-30

v1 – Pharisees	(proper noun)	members of a Jewish religious sect who emphasised strict obedience to the law and also to their traditions
v1 – baptising	(verb)	washing with water to symbolise that someone has been cleansed of their sins
v1 – disciples	(noun)	followers or students
v4 – Samaria	(proper noun)	a region – see map
v5 – plot	(noun)	a secret plan to do something that is illegal or wrong
v6 – well	(noun)	a hole in the ground from which you can get a supply of water
v9 – Jew	(proper noun)	someone from the nation of Israel
v9 – Samaritan	(proper noun)	someone from Samaria. Samaritans were of mixed Jewish and Gentile heritage and so were looked down on Jews.
v11 – draw (water)	(verb)	take (water) from a source (in this case, a well)
v12 – livestock	(noun)	animals that are kept on a farm
v19 – prophet	(noun)	someone who receives speaks messages from God to his people
v25 – Messiah	(proper noun)	God’s king
v26 – declared	(verb)	said something in a firm and deliberate way

John 4:1-30 (New International Reader’s Version)

4 Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard about him. They had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John. ²But in fact Jesus was not baptizing. His disciples were. ³So Jesus left Judea and went back again to Galilee.

⁴Jesus had to go through Samaria. ⁵He came to a town in Samaria called Sychar. It was near the piece of land Jacob had given his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there. Jesus was tired from the journey. So he sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A woman from Samaria came to get some water. Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” ⁸His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.

⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew. I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” She said this because Jews don’t have anything to do with Samaritans.

¹⁰Jesus answered her, “You do not know what God’s gift is. And you do not know who is asking you for a drink. If you did, you would have asked him. He would have given you living water.”

¹¹“Sir,” the woman said, “you don’t have anything to get water with. The well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹²Our father Jacob gave us the well. He drank from it himself. So did his sons and his livestock. Are you more important than he is?”

¹³Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. ¹⁴But anyone who drinks the water I give them will never be thirsty. In fact, the water I give them will become a spring of water in them. It will flow up into eternal life.”

¹⁵The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water. Then I will never be thirsty. And I won’t have to keep coming here to get water.”

¹⁶He told her, “Go. Get your husband and come back.”

¹⁷“I have no husband,” she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸The fact is, you have had five husbands. And the man you live with now is not your husband. What you have just said is very true.”

¹⁹“Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our people have always worshiped on this mountain. But you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

²¹ Jesus said, "Woman, believe me. A time is coming when you will not worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know. Salvation comes from the Jews. ²³ But a new time is coming. In fact, it is already here. True worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth. They are the kind of worshipers the Father is looking for. ²⁴ God is spirit. His worshipers must worship him in the Spirit and in truth."

²⁵ The woman said, "I know that Messiah is coming." Messiah means Christ. "When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶ Then Jesus said, "The one you're talking about is the one speaking to you. I am he."

²⁷ Just then Jesus' disciples returned. They were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want from her?" No one asked, "Why are you talking with her?"

²⁸ The woman left her water jar and went back to the town. She said to the people, ²⁹ "Come. See a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?" ³⁰ The people came out of the town and made their way toward Jesus.

