

# John 4

Saturday, March 15, 2025 8:00 AM

## **A SAMARITAN WOMAN**

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." (**John 4:10-12 ESV**)

**If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,** Jesus drew the woman into conversation, making her curious about several things.

1. He made her curious about the things of God (If you knew the gift of God)
2. He made her curious about who Jesus is (who it is that is saying to you)
3. He made her curious about what He could give her (He would have given you living water).

There is a principle connected with the words if you knew... you would have asked Him: If you knew more, you would pray more.

But also there is another principle at work: Jesus often speaks to us as if we were more spiritual or understanding than we actually are. He does this on purpose. Let me take a side note here, and this is for free. Why do you think Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman as if she were more spiritual? Maybe one way to see this is by helping people see a vision for themselves, seeing them go to levels higher than they ever would have imagined on their own. For us that doesn't mean you have to fix them or enable them; instead, guide them to the source.

Like Jesus' encounter, we don't meet people by accident. Every person you meet will have a role in your life, be it big or small. Some will help you grow, some will hurt you, and some will inspire you to do better. At the same time, you are playing some role in their lives as well. Know that paths cross for a reason and treat people with significance.

**He would have given you living water:** In ancient times they called spring water living water because it seemed alive as it bubbled up from the ground. At first glance, it might seem that Jesus told this woman about a nearby active spring. But Jesus made a play on words with the phrase "living water," because He meant the spiritual water that quenches spiritual thirst and gives life. (**Guzik**)

**Are you greater than our father Jacob?:** It is hard to tell if the woman asked a sincere question, or if she was a cynical critic. All depended on the tone of her voice. The fact that she came to believe at the end of her encounter with Jesus

may suggest it was an honest question.

Lord, help us to see others as you see them. Help us with our unbelief. Guide us with the people we encounter as if they are part of your master plan so that Your name may be glorified in the world.