

Passage Guide From Mess to Mission | Greater Story - Week 3

John 4:1-30 November 23, 2025

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Jesus doesn't wait for you to "fix yourself." He meets you right where you are, even in your struggles or shame, and then leads you toward new life, hope, and purpose.

MAIN POINTS

- 1. Before Jesus: Life is Dry and Draining (John 4:4-9)
 - Jesus "had to go through Samaria" (v.4). This wasn't an accident.
 - The woman comes to the well at noon, alone, tired, ashamed (v.6–7).
 - She has a complicated past and feels separated from people and God (v.9).
 Truth: Dry seasons can prepare you for a divine appointment.
- 2. Meeting Jesus: He Offers Living Water (John 4:10–18)
 - Jesus offers her "living water," spiritual life that satisfies the soul (v.10, 13–14).
 - She misunderstands at first (v.11–12), but Jesus gently leads her deeper.
 - Jesus exposes her brokenness (v.16–18) not to shame her, but to heal her. **Truth:** *Jesus lovingly reveals the truth so He can restore your heart.*
- 3. After Meeting Jesus: From Mess to Mission (John 4:28–30)
 - She leaves her water jar and runs back to tell others about Jesus.
 - The woman who used to hide is now bold, joyful, and unashamed. **Truth:** When Jesus changes you, He also sends you out to invite others to Him.

Big Idea: Jesus meets you where you are and leads you where to go.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **1. Why does Jesus' offering "living water" matter spiritually?** Possible Answer: Living water symbolizes eternal life and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is saying He alone can satisfy our deepest spiritual thirst (John 7:37–39; Jeremiah 2:13).
- **2. Why does Jesus bring up the woman's past?** Possible Answer: Jesus reveals her sin to show her need for grace, not to condemn her. Healing begins when our sin is brought into the light (John 4:16–18; Psalm 139:23–24; John 3:17).
- **3. Where do you feel the "dry" parts of your life right now?** Possible Answer: Maybe emotional exhaustion, spiritual emptiness, or relational hurt. Jesus meets us in those places (Psalm 63:1; Matthew 11:28).
- **4.** How has Jesus changed your story, and who could you share it with? Possible Answer: I may not have it all figured out, but Jesus has given me hope and direction. I can share with a friend, coworker, or my children (John 4:28–30; Matthew 5:16).

GOSPEL CONNECTION

The Samaritan woman met Jesus in the middle of her brokenness. She didn't fix herself first. She didn't hide her past. Jesus came to her, offered grace, told her the truth, and gave her a new life and new purpose. This is the gospel: Jesus came down to us (John 1:14), He knows our sin completely (Romans 3:23), He offers living water, eternal life, through His death and resurrection (John 4:14; John 3:16), He turns sinners into messengers, from mess to mission (John 4:28–30).

If you are not yet a believer: turn from your sin and trust Jesus today. He already knows your story, and He still invites you into His grace. Ask Him to forgive you, fill you with living water, and give you a new beginning.

If you are a believer: keep coming back to Jesus as your source. Repent of the areas where you've returned to old wells that don't satisfy. Believe again that His grace is enough, and let Him use your story to point others to Him.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

MONDAY - Jesus Meets You in the Dry Places

Key Verse: "Now he had to go through Samaria." (John 4:4)

Reflection: Jesus didn't avoid Samaria; He chose to go there. In the same way, He enters the dry and difficult parts of your life on purpose. Your struggles don't push Him away; they often prepare you for a divine appointment.

Application Question: Where is your life feeling dry, empty, or tiring right now? Possible Answer: I feel worn out in my work and emotions, and I need Jesus to refresh me.

Prayer Response: Lord Jesus, thank You that You meet me in the dry places. Help me recognize Your presence today and trust that You are working even when I feel empty. Refresh me with Your living water, in Jesus' Name, Amen.

(John 4:1-6; Psalm 63:1; Matthew 11:28-30)

TUESDAY - Living Water for a Thirsty Soul

Key Verse: "Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst." (John 4:14)

Reflection: Only Jesus can satisfy the deepest thirst of your heart. The things you turn to, success, approval, pleasure, can't give lasting peace. Jesus offers a spring of life inside you through His Spirit.

Application Question: What "wells" are you tempted to drink from instead of Jesus? Possible Answer: I sometimes look for comfort in entertainment or people rather than spending time with Jesus.

Prayer Response: Jesus, You are the only source of true satisfaction. Help me turn from false wells and drink deeply from Your presence, grace, and truth.

(John 4:10–14; Jeremiah 2:13; John 7:37–39)

WEDNESDAY - Jesus Reveals to Heal

Key Verse: "You are right when you say you have no husband." (John 4:17)

Reflection: Jesus did not expose the woman's past to embarrass her but to free her. He lovingly brings sin into the light so He can bring healing and restoration. When Jesus reveals truth, it's always for your good.

Application Question: What part of your life might Jesus be gently asking you to bring into the light? Possible Answer: I need to be honest about my hidden habits and ask Jesus to help me change.

Prayer Response: Lord, search my heart and show me the things that need Your healing. Give me courage to confess, repent, and walk in freedom.

(John 4:15–18; Psalm 139:23–24; 1 John 1:8–9; John 3:17)

THURSDAY - Come and See

Key Verse: "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did." (John 4:29)

Reflection: The woman at the well didn't have all the answers, but she had met Jesus. That encounter gave her confidence to invite others to discover Him too. When Jesus changes you, even a little, you have something to share.

Application Question: Who is one person you could invite to "come and see" Jesus this week? Possible Answer: I could reach out to a coworker or friend who's been struggling and offer to pray for them or invite them to church.

Prayer Response: Jesus, thank You for what You've done in my life. Make me bold and loving as I invite others to see who You are.

(John 4:27-30; Matthew 5:16; Acts 1:8)

FRIDAY - From Mess to Mission

Key Verse: "The woman left her water jar... and said to the people, 'Come, see..." (John 4:28–29)

Reflection: The woman left her water jar because she had found something far better, Jesus Himself. Her shame turned into boldness, and her mess became her message. Jesus does the same for you: He meets you, heals you, and sends you.

Application Question: How has Jesus transformed your story, and how can you use it to encourage someone today? Possible Answer: Jesus has brought peace to my life, and I can share that hope with someone who feels lost or discouraged.

Prayer Response: Lord, thank You for turning my mess into a message of grace. Use my life and my story to point others to You today.

(John 4:28–30; 2 Corinthians 5:17–20; Romans 10:14–15)