24 OCTOBER SERMON

Come See a Man

BROTHER BENJAMIN MATHEW

Based on John 4:28-30

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Jesus meets people where they are. He did not take an alternate route around Samaria. He went directly to where the woman was, just as He pursues each of us in our own circumstances.
2. Jesus is unlike anyone or anything else. No earthly substitute, relationship, habit, or comfort can satisfy what only He can provide.
3. We all carry a spiritual thirst. Ecclesiastes 3:11 tells us that God has placed eternity in the hearts of all mankind, meaning every person carries a longing for something beyond this world.
4. Living water is the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was not speaking of physical water but of the Spirit of God that He desires to pour into every willing heart.
5. Encountering Jesus requires confronting our sin. Before offering the woman living water, Jesus gently but directly addressed her sin. Repentance is not a barrier to receiving God. It is the doorway.
6. We do not have to understand everything for God to be God. The woman still had unanswered questions when Jesus revealed Himself to her as the Messiah. His power is not limited by our comprehension.
7. A genuine encounter with Jesus changes us and sends us. The woman left her water jar, returned to the very people who had shunned her, and invited them to come see Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Opening

1. If you had to describe yourself as a kitchenware item, what would you be and why? Feel free to use the one from the sermon or come up with your own.
2. Has there ever been a moment in your life when you felt like God specifically sought you out, the way Jesus went out of His way to pass through Samaria? Share what that was like.

Going Deeper into the Text

3. The sermon pointed out that the Samaritan woman was drawing water alone, at noon, which likely meant she was an outcast. Have you ever felt like an outcast or unworthy of God's attention? How does this story speak to that feeling?
4. Jesus listed many names of God during the message, such as Jehovah Rapha, El Roi, Jehovah Shalom, and Emmanuel. Which of these names of God is most meaningful to you right now in your current season of life, and why?

5. The preacher said, "There's nobody like Jesus. He's not like drugs. He's not like alcohol. He's not like anyone who's ever hurt you. He's not like anyone who's ever disappointed you." What are some things, healthy or unhealthy, that people around you tend to turn to in order to fill that spiritual thirst? What has been your own experience with this?

6. Jesus asked the woman to confront her sin before receiving living water. Why do you think repentance is an important part of receiving the Holy Spirit? Does that feel like a barrier to you or a relief? Discuss honestly.

7. The sermon highlighted that the woman still had doubts and unanswered questions even after her encounter with Jesus, yet she still went and told others. What does this teach us about the relationship between doubt and faith?

Personal Reflection

8. The woman left her water jar at the well, symbolizing that she no longer needed what she had previously depended on. Is there a "water jar" in your own life, something you have been relying on outside of Jesus, that you sense God is asking you to leave behind?

9. The woman went back to the very people who had shunned her and invited them to come see Jesus. Who in your life needs to hear the words "come see a man"? What is holding you back from sharing your story with them?

10. The sermon said, "I don't have to understand everything for Him to be God." Is there a situation in your life right now where you are struggling to trust God because you do not have all the answers? How can this truth bring you peace?

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

- **Pray through the names of God.** Take ten to fifteen minutes this week to slowly pray through the names of God mentioned in the sermon. As you speak each name, pause and ask God to reveal Himself to you in that specific way. Keep a journal of what you sense Him saying.

- **Identify your water jar.** Prayerfully ask God to show you one thing you have been depending on in place of Him. Write it down. Share it with a trusted friend or your group leader and ask them to pray with you about leaving it at Jesus' feet.

- **Write your testimony.** The Samaritan woman's testimony was simple: "Come see a man who told me everything I ever did." Write a two to three sentence version of your own testimony that you could share with someone this week. Practice saying it out loud.

- **Reach back to someone.** Like the woman who returned to the very people who had hurt her, identify one person in your life whom you may have distanced yourself from. Pray about whether God is calling you to reach out to them with the love of Christ.

- **Take a step of faith toward baptism or the Holy Spirit.** If you felt stirred during the altar call but did not respond, speak with your cell group leader or a church staff member this week about water baptism or being filled with the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER POINTERS

- Thank God for being a God who seeks us out and meets us where we are.
- Ask God to reveal Himself by one of His names to someone in your cell or friend group who is in a specific need right now.
- Pray for boldness to share your testimony with at least one person this week.
- Pray for anyone who is still carrying doubt or unanswered questions, that God would give them the peace that surpasses understanding.

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

John 4:14 - Jesus speaks of water that becomes an eternal spring within those who drink it, so that they will never thirst again.

"Come see a man who told me everything I ever did." — John 4:29