

How To Go From Empty To Full

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Key Scriptures: John 4:4-42; Jeremiah 2:13; Psalm 130:7

1. Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Have you ever had that feeling that people are talking about you? What were the clues that gave them away? How did they act?
- Have you ever been caught talking about someone and suddenly they are there? What did you do? Did you get away with it? Explain.
- What are good reasons to be talking about others, but not wanting them to know? (Like planning a surprise? Or discussing a gift for them?)

2. Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- John 4:4 starts by saying Jesus had to go through Samaria, but most Jews took a long route around it. Why is this significant? When in Jesus' life have you also heard about a Samaritan?
- Why would this woman choose to go to the well in the middle of the hottest part of the day?
- In John 4:13, Jesus contrasts her thirst and the water in the well with "water" that He offers to make her never "thirst" again. What do you think the water and thirst that Jesus is speaking of represents?
- In John 4:19, the Samaritan woman presents a question about religion (and religious people). It seems to be a barrier to her accepting Jesus as truth. What barriers do religion and religious people present to you, your friends, family, co-workers, and classmates? Is Jesus talking about religion? Or does He present a true relationship with Him and with God? Why or why not?

3. Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- When Jesus spoke of a "thirst" that He can satisfy forever, He seemed to know what the woman "thirsted" for... What do you desire that only Jesus can satisfy? How would He satisfy that desire?
- We all desire love, peace, security, and friendship. This Samaritan woman did as well... but she found hope in a stranger, from a people group that was not her own. How does joining a small group, or even the church help you find these things? Can we experience Godly love, peace, security, and friendship only in Jesus, or can we experience that from people as well? Explain.
- Pastor John said, "Jesus can redeem any life". How would you define "redeemed"? What does it mean to experience redemption? Explain.
- If Jesus loves us no matter what, then does redemption even matter?

4. Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray for your friends, family, co-workers, and classmates, that they will find answers in Jesus for their deepest questions.
- Pray for creative ways to share how Jesus has satisfied some of your deepest "thirsts".
- Pray that they have an encounter with Jesus.

5. Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Memorize Psalm 130:7 - Put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.