

# Jesus Story: Woman at the well

John 4:1-30 & 39-42

What's the story? Be interested, not interesting!

It's amazing how a small action can have a massive reaction. In this story, Jesus talks to a woman, her life is turned around, she then goes and tells her whole village and many of them too become believers. Amazing! And where does it all start? With Jesus asking her for a drink. He just starts a conversation by asking her a question.

**Read John 4:1-30 & 39-42**

**Spend some time chatting through the following questions:**

- Why do you think the woman had chosen to go to the well at midday? It is then that the temperature would be at its highest and very few people would be around. Might this tell us anything about how she feels about herself and the way that others have treated her in the past?
- Jewish men were not supposed to speak to Samaritan women. What do you think the woman was thinking and feeling when Jesus asked her for a drink?
- What do you notice about the way Jesus speaks to the woman?
- In verse 10 Jesus tells the woman that she doesn't know what God wants to give her. What do you think Jesus is referring to? What does God want to give to your mates who don't know him yet?
- Jesus knew the woman's story and he used it to show her his love. How can you get to know your mates' stories better?
- When the disciples came back from town they were 'surprised' that Jesus was talking to a woman. They hadn't expected that he would do something that was so culturally improper. What does this teach us about Jesus? What are the cultural divides you need to cross?

With our mates we need to be conversation starters. Great evangelists don't have to be interesting but they do have to be interested. Everyone has a story and being a good friend involves getting to know that story, often before we get a chance to tell our own. Jesus is not afraid to ask people questions and cross difficult cultural divides. It was a big deal for Jewish men to talk to Samaritan women, but Jesus took the chance because he knew what a difference knowing him can make.